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THE WORLD STARS ARE COMING



SIMPLY RED: MAGIC MARK BOSNICH

By **BRUCE CAMPBELL**
Australia's **NUMBER ONE**
soccer writer

AUSSIE Superstar Mark Bosnich wrote his name in the record books when his transfer to Manchester United made him the richest Australian soccer player ever.

It also catapulted the brilliant keeper into the undisputed number one pole position by linking up with England's major club.

The only thing that has been missing in his star-spangled career has been silverware but now he is set to correct that with the unique treble champions and could well surpass the medal haul of former Liverpool Aussie Craig Johnston.

Read all about MAGIC MARK in *Inside Soccer's* fabulous four page tribute to the controversial star who started out in the streets of Sydney. **PAGES 11-14**

SOCCER FEVER



MANCHESTER UNITED on their way to winning the European Cup and completing that fabulous treble and Australian soccer fans are in for a marvellous month as first the FIFA World Stars and then the Red Devils head Down Under - starting this Saturday night at Homebush Bay.

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Pele renews attack on Brazil World Cup bid

WORLD soccer legend Pele has renewed his attack on Brazil's 2006 World Cup bid as he claimed the president of the country's football federation was talking nonsense.

"The president of the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) can't keep on talking nonsense. He has to work for the benefit of sport," said Pele, who last week said he wanted no part of the Brazil bid. "If we had a project that was transparent and everything was being done in the open, then that would be okay. But we don't have any of this."

"Brazil has not got any stadium, any pitch, which is apt to stage a World Cup match or meet the conditions set down by FIFA," added Pele, who

was speaking at the training ground of Santos, the club where he spent 17 years of his illustrious career.

"It's time to stop deceiving the people."

Pele began his attack in Barcelona, shortly before the European Cup final.

He described it as a lost cause and a waste of money and accused bid organisers of wanting "to get some money without doing much work for it."

CBF president Ricardo Teixeira said at the time that he deplored Pele's comments and claimed the World Cup, if held in Latin America's largest country, would generate jobs, stimulate stadium modernisation and increase tourism.

"All sportsmen and Brazilians in general wish for the staging of

the 2006 World Cup in Brazil," Teixeira said in a statement.

And in Cairo a South African diplomat said that South Africa will present its bid to stage the 2006 World Cup to the African Soccer Confederation (CAF) executive. He said FIFA President Sepp Blatter, who has repeatedly urged that the event go to an African country if it was able to meet all of FIFA's strict criteria regarding telecommunications, security and infrastructure, would also be present at the CAF executive session.

A team led by Danny Jordaan, CEO of the committee that has put together South Africa's \$20 million proposal for the World Cup, will argue that other contenders

should step down to allow a unified bid that would improve the continent's chances of hosting the finals for the first time.

Egypt, Ghana and Nigeria have already dropped out of the race, but Morocco are still in contention against non-African bidders Brazil, England and Germany.

Morocco, who have twice unsuccessfully bid for the World Cup in the past, were not expected to address CAF with their proposed bid at the weekend.

All bids have to be with FIFA, world soccer's ruling body by the end of next month.

The decision on where the finals will be held in 2006 will be taken by FIFA's 24-man executive next March.



Pele: hitting the headlines with his World Cup bid comments

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Melbourne soccer games foot in Hollway mouth

By Mike Hedge

SYDNEY'S Olympic supremo Sandy Hollway came to Melbourne last week to push the notion that the Olympic Games was a national event that everyone could afford.

Unfortunately, he began by telling his audience at the Melbourne Town Hall that it was only fitting that there should be some Olympic soccer matches being played "here in Sydney".

Hollway bluffed his way through the faux pas, but his Freudian slip wasn't lost on members of today's public forum.

"You'd have thought he'd have got it right if he really wanted us to believe we were a part of the Games," said Stephen Taylor of South Melbourne.

The SOCOG CEO went on to praise the Melbourne Cricket Ground and the Friendly Games held there in 1956 and to assure Victorians they would be welcome in Sydney next year.



Victorian Premier Jeff Kennett: pledged to spend millions on Olympic soccer

He also went to great lengths to dispel the rumour and exaggeration being peddled about the cost of attending the 2000 Olympics.

"I want to kill stone dead the notion that it is

unaffordable," Mr Hollway said.

Hollway challenged recent publicity in Melbourne that a week at the Games could cost the average family around \$13,000 for travel, ac-

commodation and cheaper range tickets. Not true, said the Games boss.

Citing day one of the athletics programme as a perfect example, he said spectators could witness four hours of top-class competition for as little as \$35.

Tickets to the finals of the major events, however, are as much as \$455.

event.

Hollway also wanted to "kill stone dead" any suggestion that accommodation was similarly expensive and hard to get.

"I would be terribly disappointed if people didn't come because of availability or affordability," he said.

Estimates compiled since ticket prices were announced last month have put the cost for a family of four of travel to Sydney from interstate, accommodation during the Games and good tickets to finals of the most popular events at as much as \$30,000.

And that was excluding the \$1,382 opening and closing ceremony tickets.

In Melbourne, meanwhile, it seems the desire to make a killing from the Olympic soccer matches being played in the city is less well developed than in the Games' home town.

Premier Jeff Kennett said he was certain the preliminary matches to be played at the MCG would fill the ground.

But he said there was no profit motive.

"What we seek to do is to contribute to the success of the Olympic Games in Sydney," the Premier said, adding that matches were likely to cost Victoria "a few million".

"But that is a small price to pay for being part of one of the greatest events in the world."

The first of eight days of track and field at the main stadium includes the opening rounds of the men's and women's 100 metres, the women's 800 heats and the 20km walk, a gold medal

The Aussie Dream Match: South Melbourne v Man United

"No Way" says Edwards

EUROPEAN champion Manchester United has ruled out taking part in next season's multi-team world club championship which is likely to feature Australian champion South Melbourne.

United chairman Martin Edwards said it was unlikely any English clubs would want to be part of the proposed championship in Brazil.

The tournament would involve top club sides and would be played like a mini World Cup, but Edwards said: "I only know what I have learned about the competition from the media and we

Edwards did, however, confirm that United would take part in both the one-off World Club championship against the champions of South America and the European Super Cup, another one-off game against the winners of the European Cup Winners' Cup, next season.

"We will play in the European Super Cup on August 27, and plan to go to Tokyo for the World Club championship on November 30, provided there is no problem with domestic fixtures," he said.

United is preparing for its biggest challenge so far as it

"Three weeks out of the season would almost be an impossibility for any English club"

haven't had any official approach.

"But I think if you were talking about taking three weeks out of the season that would almost be an impossibility for any English club.

"We are already playing 38 league games and potentially 17 games in the Champions' League, so I think it will be a non-starter, certainly while we have a 20-club league."

goes into a season defending three trophies - the European Cup, English Premiership and FA Cup - and with the possibility of being crowned top club in the world.

Edwards is aware of the demands this puts on his players and said: "It's going to be very difficult to win the Champions' League and defend the title. Those two competitions alone involve 55



United supremo Martin Edwards with Mark Bosnich

games and if you add Super Cup and World Club championships and two domestic cups as well, you can see it's

going to be tough.

"We played 62 games this season and I can see us going well into 70 next year and that

is a hell of a task. It will be much harder next year but we always knew that. That is why I think the Treble was such a

fantastic achievement and it is going to be very difficult for anyone to emulate that in the future."

Kiwis host two match Oz visit

THE Australian Olympic soccer team will meet its New Zealand counterpart in two matches, New Zealand Soccer confirmed last week.

NZS chief executive Bob Patterson said the two sides would play in Auckland on June 30 and in Christchurch on July 3.

Australia have already qualified, as host nation, for the Olympic Games tournament in Sydney next year and recently played an away match with Japan as part of its ongoing preparations.

New Zealand could also make the Olympic finals if

they win the Oceania qualifying tournament in Auckland in December.

The New Zealand squad for the two Australian internationals will be named today, New Zealand under-23 team assistant coach Ron Armstrong said.

Armstrong and head coach Ricki Herbert also have to confirm the availability of some Olympic squad contenders, who are on soccer scholarships at United States colleges.

Patterson said the Australians will play a "low-key warm-up game" in Auckland

before the first international.

Australia can call on a clutch of European-based professionals for their Olympic squad, including Leeds United star Harry Kewell.

The Olyroos' Australian-based players assembled at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) yesterday and will spend two weeks in camp at Sydney before leaving for Auckland.

Coach Raul Blanco said the Olyroos had opted to play in New Zealand, rather than accept an offer to tour South America.



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Vieri coming to Marconi and maybe Inter

MARCONI will host world star Christian Vieri at its annual presentation and awards night next Tuesday at the Club Marconi main auditorium.

Vieri started his soccer career as a Marconi junior before going on to international stardom in Italy.

Awards to be presented include Players of the Year for Colts, Youth and First Grade teams and the Supporters Player of the Year.

The evening will consist of a three course dinner including drinks and a floorshow plus the Marconi Stallionettes.

Tickets are available at the club at a cost of \$60 per head or through club reception on 9823 2222.

And on the eve of his departure for Australia news from Italy confirms that Inter Milan want to buy Lazio's Italian international striker.

However, they have

made little progress in agreeing a price with the Serie A runners-up for Vieri, Inter owner Massimo Moratti said on Wednesday.

"There have been talks...but Lazio's request is a bit excessive," Moratti told reporters.

"In that sense we have put a request in to Lazio but we haven't advanced very far.

"We have talked but the proposal made to us seems rather high."

Asked if Brazilian striker Ronaldo would stay at Inter if Vieri were to move to the San Siro, Moratti said: "The two are made to play together because they are such different players."

Italian newspapers had speculated Vieri might leave Lazio in search of a more lucrative contract at Inter, particularly since Inter will be coached by his former Juventus boss Marcello Lippi next sea-

son.

Lippi already has former Juventus player Roberto Baggio at the club and looks set to gather several of his former key players around him at Inter.

Juve's Italy goalkeeper Angelo Peruzzi as well as former Juventus and Yugoslavia midfielder Vladimir Jugovic, currently at Atletico Madrid, are likely to join soon.

Vieri said he had not asked to leave Lazio.

"(Lazio President Sergio) Cragnotti has the right to sell me but I haven't requested it," he said.

The big striker joined the Rome side a year ago from Spain's Atletico Madrid for \$28 million, the highest transfer figure ever paid for an Italian player.

He missed a large chunk of the first half of the season through injury but returned in the New

Year to inspire Sven Goran Eriksson's side to the brink of their first league title in a quarter century.

Lazio were eventually pipped by a single point by AC Milan.

Vieri has become one of Italian soccer's nomads and hottest properties.

He has yet to stay longer than a season at any of his last five Italian clubs.

He played for Pisa in 1992-93, followed by a season at Ravenna, Venezia, Atalanta Bergamo and Juventus.

He stayed at Atletico for two years before returning to Italy in the wake of his superb performance in the World Cup in France, where he scored five goals in five matches.

"I'm interested to see where he'll go next season," Moratti said.

"We still have an interest in him."



Sir Elton won't be a candle in the wind

WATFORD'S multi-millionaire chairman Sir Elton John has said he will not bankroll the newly-promoted club to try to ensure its English Premier League survival.

The singer renewed his association with the club when he returned as chairman two years ago after a seven-year gap but the financial demands are now unrecognisable from his days at the top in the 1970s and early 80s.

"When I came back as chairman I made it clear it would not be a case of bottomless pockets," John was quoted as saying in the London Evening Standard.

"It has to be up to the club to raise the finances.

"We have to acquire many new players and improve our overall standard but Graham (Taylor) will be cautious because he knows we do not have the funds that other clubs have.

"We have to stay in the Premier League and try to establish ourselves."

Watford is managed by

former England boss Taylor who was also in charge when Watford charged through all four divisions to finish second in the old first division in 1983 and reach the FA Cup final the following year.

Taylor left for an ill-starred spell in charge of the national team but returned to lift the club's fortunes again with successive promotions.

Watford gained promotion to the premier league last week by beating Bolton Wanderers 2-0 in the first division play-off final at Wembley.

And Taylor recognises the huge gulf in spending power that has made it so difficult for promoted clubs to avoid immediate relegation.

"Even if I was given 15 million pounds (\$A37 million) to spend on players it wouldn't be enough," said Taylor.

"In the next three years we are going to get the good part of Stg12 million (\$A30 million), even if we get relegated.



"I think that is money which should be spent on developing the club.

"If the directors want to go and spend it all on two or three players they can

look for another manager."

PICTURE: Watford are back - but Sir Elton won't be bank rolling them

Roy and Davie: they could be the next deadly duo

ROY Hodgson is leaving Inter Milan a sad man after failing to earn the team a place in next season's UEFA Cup.

Club president Massimo Moratti recruited Hodgson as Inter's fourth coach of a bitterly disappointing season, with just four league games and a two-leg play-off with Bologna remaining.

But Hodgson, who took Inter to the 1997 UEFA Cup final, got mixed results in the Serie A, winning two and losing two.

And last week, his team lost 2-1 in Bologna, just as they had in first leg.

"I am very said," he said. "The work over the past five weeks has given me a lot of satisfaction, but unfortunately the results haven't."

"And for a coach, it's always hard to accept when good work doesn't lead to success."

He went on: "The players all reacted well to my arrival."

"But the bad luck that's been dogging Inter all season has continued during my short stay."

"I hope their luck turns next season, because Inter deserve it."

Hodgson, who has handed over to ex-Juventus coach Marcello

Lippi, would not be drawn on his own future - he has been linked to the coaching job with Australia's national team.

"I don't know what that will be, but at the moment that's something which is much less important than the disappointment that I, Moratti and all the Inter fans are feeling," he said.

Inter, which began 1998-99 aiming to win the Champions League, will now be without European football next season for only the sixth time since the various competitions were held together in 1960.



Davie Mitchell: the popular vote for the Socceroo coaching vacancy

Meanwhile Hodgson is due in Sydney this week as coach of the FIFA World XI team.

He has constantly been linked with the Australian coach's job, now being filled on a caretaker basis by Raul Blanco.

Sydney United coach Davie Mitchell still heads up the people's vote for the job and it could well be that Soccer Australia

will approach both men with a view to a joint custody.

Kings sign third player

NEW Zealand international team defender Gavin Wilkinson is the latest signing by the Auckland-based Football Kings.

Wilkinson, due back in Auckland this week to join the All Whites for the Confederations Cup tournament in Mexico, has been released a year early from his contract with Perth Glory.

Former All Whites midfielder Riki van Steeden will join Wilkinson on a two-year contract with the Kings for their entry into the Australian league.

The two New Zealand-born players - van Steeden had a stint with

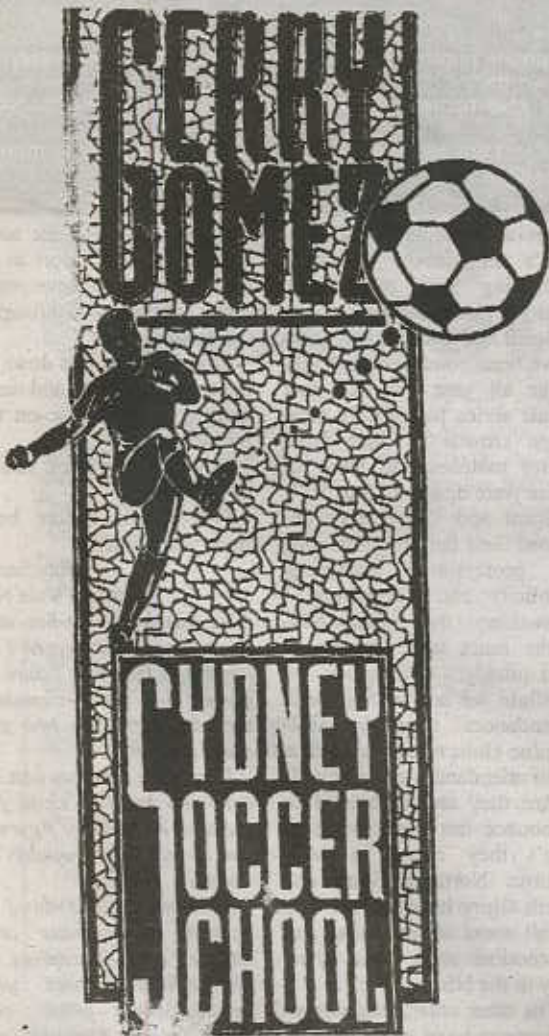
Australian club Carlton before being sidelined by injury -- join player-coach Wynton Rufer and Australian Marcus Stergiopoulos as the early signings at the club.

Kings chairman Chris Turner will be in Australia late next week to watch the clash between the Socceroos and the FIFA All Stars, including Rufer, and will have talks with basketball franchise the Sydney Kings in an effort to end the wrangle over the clash of names.

The Sydney Kings have demanded that the National Soccer League's newest member relinquish its name or face a legal battle.

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Inside Soccer READERS' NSL AWARDS

Inside Soccer would like to thank the many, many readers who contributed to the 1999 NSL Reader's Player Awards.

The volume of the response was outstanding and generally showed a very broad view of the NSL. Fears that entries would be parochial proved groundless and the general entry showed the standard of knowledge possessed by our readers.

Winners were calculated on the basis of 8 points for a first selection, 5 for a second selection and 3 for a third selection.

In the main the winners mirrored the nominations in the NSL's annual awards night and might well prove a good form guide to the winners at Hilton next week.

BEST PLAYER

- 1 BRAD MALONEY (Marconi Fairfield)
- 2 DAVID CLARKSON (South Melbourne)
- 3 PAUL TRIMBOLI (South Melbourne)

BEST ROOKIE PLAYER*

- 1 MILE STERJOVSKI (Sydney United)
- 2 MATTHEW LANGDON (Northern Spirit)
- 3 JOEL GRIFFITHS (Sydney United)

* Under 21 player in his first ever NSL season.

BEST GOALKEEPER

- 1 BOBBY CATLIN (Newcastle Breakers)
- 2 PAUL HENDERSON (Northern Spirit)
- 3 MICHAEL PETKOVIC (South Melbourne)

BEST UNDER 21 PLAYER

- 1 JASON CULINA (Sydney Olympic)
- 2 MILE STERJOVSKI (Sydney United)
- 3 SIMON COLOSIMO (Carlton)



Brad Maloney: nominated by *Inside Soccer* readers as the season's most outstanding player.

NSL big night at the Sydney Hilton

THE National Soccer League will hold its annual awards night at a lavish function at the Sydney Hilton on 11 June 1999. The invited guest list represents a who's who from the world of soccer including media, administrators, players and officials.

NOMINATIONS for the 1999 awards are:

PLAYERS PLAYER OF THE YEAR - Warren Medal

- Con Boutsianis (Perth Glory)
Pablo Cardozo (Sydney Olympic)
Brad Maloney (Marconi Fairfield)
Mile Sterjovski (Sydney United)
Paul Trimboli (South Melbourne)

UNDER-21 PLAYER OF THE YEAR - Papasavas Medal

- Simon Colosimo (Carlton)
Joel Griffiths (Sydney United)
Mile Sterjovski (Sydney United)
Zeljko Susa (Melbourne Knights)

COACH OF THE YEAR

- Graham Arnold (Northern Spirit)
David Mitchell (Sydney United)
Ange Postecoglou (South Melbourne)
Bernd Stange (Perth Glory)

GOALKEEPER OF THE YEAR

- Bob Catlin (Newcastle Breakers)
Paul Henderson (Northern Spirit)
Jason Petkovic (Adelaide City)
Michael Petkovic (South Melbourne)

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE - NORTHERN DIVISION

- Chad Bishop (Wollongong Wolves)
Simon Catanzaro (NSW Institute of Sport)
Ljubo Milicevic (Australian Institute of Sport)

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE - SOUTHERN DIVISION

- Andrew Mashoian (South Melbourne)
Nick Tolios (Carlton)
Deniz Ekici (Carlton)

Stallion Mori

I HAVE to comment on *Inside Soccer's* suggestion about Marconi wanting Damien Mori (1/6/99).

You forgot to ask does Damien Mori want the Stallions?

I don't think so, why would anyone who has played at the top level in this country both with the national team and the best team in the best state, want to play for a bunch of amateurs like Marconi.

The guy is worth a lot more than a quarter of a million to the Zebras, especially to us the supporters.

The powers that be wouldn't dare sell of the goal scoring machine.

Not even a possible swap for the unhappy Stallion, Francis Awaritefe and a quarter of a million pounds as a sweetener, would be a fair deal.

I know I am only an expat Croweater in the Premier State, but even I can see this can't possibly be true.

Danny Stapleton
Cooma NSW
(Don't bet on it - Marconi confirmed their interest in Mori last week. - Ed).

In Praise of Auntie

CONGRATULATIONS on re-starting *Inside Soccer* and keep up the good work.

With regards to your recent comments, I disagree with your criticism of ABC coverage.

Granted, it's not perfect, but with ABC at least we've been able to watch one full game a week (usually live) PLUS highlights of most other games.

SBS only ever showed highlights.

As a passionate football fan

I completely disagree with your comment that football's not good enough for ninety minutes of TV viewing.

I can recall some absolutely cracking games (and some stinkers) this season e.g. Sydney United v South Melbourne, any Perth games and of course games featuring my club, Brisbane.

Not to mention the English FA Cup semi-final between Arsenal and Man Utd which went to extra time.

Another benefit with ABC is that it does give the game national coverage.

SBS is not available across all of this country (and even in capital cities the reception is varied).

Regarding your comment last week, it is a good idea to determine the Grand Final host city in advance.

Only problem being, how do we guarantee getting the home team in the final (e.g. Perth might win the bidding, but if South Melbourne and Brisbane make the final, how many fans would fly over?).

Anthony Fensom
Brisbane QLD

(I am surprised that the comment on the ABC hasn't stirred up more comment - although we did get a couple of phone calls from the Auntie.

The method of awarding a host city by bid is used successfully by UEFA for their major tournament finals and FIFA for theirs and in general stadiums are always full.

The two major benefits to the idea is that it gives fans a chance to plan, and they can vary their plans as they see their club's chances of making the final dissipate, and it

allows us to promote the game properly instead of the slapdash job that has happened in the past.

There is no criticism intended of anybody who has ever had to labour to put on a Grand Final in two weeks - it just isn't enough time. - Ed).

The Grand Final

CONGRATULATIONS to Ang Postecoglou and his South Melbourne side on the Grand Final victory, and condolences to David Mitchell and the Pumas.

What more can you say, coming from behind to win championships seem to be the vogue this season.

Even more fashionable seems to be having a substitute with fresh legs came on to score the winner.

Even if they are the supposedly aging legs of Johnny Anastasiadis (30 years old) or Manchester United's Teddy Sheringham who is what, 33 or 34.

I wouldn't go as far as to say the best Grand Final seen in many years, as your Big Match stats reporter seemed to think, but it was still a great final series overall, with heaps of goals in the big one after very few in the earlier rounds.

Let's hope we will have an even better one next season, if any of our great players are left to see it reach an exciting climax what with the end of season exodus of young champs Jason Culina, Simon Colosimo and Michael Garcia to name just a few.

But that's the state of the game unfortunately.

With their leaving the NSL, it leaves room for more young

Your WRITE

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stars to get their chance at this level.

Or maybe a few of the hundreds of Aussie overseas may return to regain some glory after many years struggling to get a game in Europe or Asia.

I for one will be watching with baited breathe, to see which one proves more accurate in the 1999/2000 season.

Danny Stapleton
Cooma NSW
(Soccer is certainly a funny game - but if that wasn't the best Grand Final for ten years or so then tell me a better one? - Ed).

Can't Count

PLEASE don't get me wrong, I am as dedicated a supporter of soccer as you can get but let us be realistic regarding the recent euphoria about this season's NSL attendances.

Apart from Northern Spirit and Perth Glory where have the increases been? Finals series attendances at most games have been up, yes, but where were the crowds during the season (other than Glory and Spirit)?

Apart from the odd match here and there the attendances at most games were not on par with previous seasons.

It would be an interesting

exercise to compare this season's attendances at clubs, excluding Spirit and Glory, with previous seasons.

Spirit and Glory attendances have been consistent and very large all year but the other finals series teams only drew large crowds in their finals series matches and some of these were disappointing.

Spirit and Glory have obtained their fantastic following by professional marketing, publicity and advertising - something the other NSL clubs must take lessons in, and quickly.

While we are talking about attendances why do Melbourne clubs mostly announce their attendances as 'approx'?

Are they too frightened to announce the true crowds or can't they count in Melbourne. Northern Spirit and Perth Glory have led the way in all areas of marketing and promotion since their short stay in the NSL.

The other older, longer serving teams have over the past years stagnated.

Yes, their supporters come out of the woodwork when their team is on top or makes the play offs but during the season they appear to hibernate.

If we want to make soccer the number one sport in this country we must have consistently large crowds throughout the season.

Rugby league was down and out three years ago and we did nothing to capitalise on their problems.

Now they are back stronger than ever.

Where will soccer be in three years time?

Ray Sandell
Killarney Vale NSW

(Did nothing? - what about Glory and Spirit, weren't they formed in that time? Sure, the game's top level administrators did little but two great clubs got going.

I don't see how you can subtract the top two clubs from the total attendance figures, if you did then they wouldn't be 'total'.

Melbourne clubs don't announce approximate attendances, lazy journalists do. The official figures, which *Inside Soccer* prints, come from *Soccer Australia* after the clubs notify them.

You are obviously a Glory fan and good luck to you - they have had a fantastic season and are clearly going to be a major force in the game. - Ed).



Bruce Campbell

IT'S ONLY AN OPINION

WELL, that is the NSL season over. Overall, it was a very exciting period.

We had nearly everything; on-field drama, off-field drama, player highlights, player low-lights, some great games and some average games.

The Olyroos and Joeys also had their share of exposure although the lack of involvement by the Soceroos would have to rate as a major disappointment.

The Oceania Cup debacle was lamentable and we are still without an appointed national team boss.

The next month will give a feast of good Australian soccer exposure with the forthcoming games against the World XI and Manchester United.

Later on this year Brazil are also due and I expect that by then a Soceroo coach will be appointed.

I am still waiting to see if our front page story about Davie Mitchell proves right – and I am keeping my fringes crossed that it will.

My congratulations to South Melbourne and Sydney United for the best Grand Final I have seen for many years.

It was a great game which had the proverbial two halves; United dominating in the first half and then



David Clarkson: had a brilliant Grand Final

South in the second.

For me the difference between the two was United's failure to close Goran Lozanovski down and David Clarkson's brilliance.

I didn't dispute Lozanovski's Marston medal award although I think my vote would have gone to Clarkson – just.

While Lozanovski had a great game I think that he was allowed too much space by the United midfield and de-

fence who allowed him to destroy them with those fantastic left foot crosses.

Back in 1993 Goran was a shock omission from the Australian World Youth Championship final squad.

He has certainly matured into an exciting player although I suspect he will have to ring Jonesy in Perth to in out how he manages to avoid Maccas on the way back from training (for God's sake let me know when you have got it).

On the administrative side it has not exactly been a rag- ingly successful period.

Our game is still shown to be a very distant eighth best in comparison to other sports in terms of media supply.

Cricket, rules, league, tennis, union, hockey and athletics all make our guys look pretty amateurish.

It isn't just the volume of press release material, it is the quality – or rather lack of it which is a concern with soc-

cer.

I have always thought that the game's administration is light years behind our playing standard.

I believe that is the single biggest reason why the game gets such a poor coverage in the daily press and why in every major paper bar none it is relegated to somewhere between the racing and lawn bowls, and given like status.

I can honestly say that the general support from our NSL clubs to this paper has been abysmal.

There are exceptions – one or two and you guys know who you are without me saying it and embarrassing you – but in the main our soccer administrators are too busy worrying about negative publicity instead of gearing themselves up for an all-out promotional assault.

I know that in my time as media consultant to the Canberra Cosmos (and look out for a good year from them on the playing field next season) we bombarded the press with almost daily press releases.

Our result was constant coverage in the city's three main papers and on every radio and TV station – and that with a club which was plumb last.

Even when the Wolves demolished the Cosmos 8-0 there was a full coverage the following week.

As I say, the general club support of the media this season has been deplorable.

If I was given a magic wand to wave at Soccer Australia's new Sydney city HQ I would spirit up someone who could go round the clubs showing them what to do in the first instance – and then demanding that they keep on doing it in the second.

Having said all that, it has always stumped me why we can produce such a fantastic stream of brilliant youth given our dreadful administration.

The only conclusion I can draw, other than the obvious one that once again I am wrong, is that our coaching system is equally brilliant.

If that is the case how much longer will it be before *Inside Soccer* carries weekly stories about our best coaches going overseas.

Already Mike Hickman, Eddie Thomson, Tommy Sermanni, Stuart Baxter and Mike Urukalo have all been there or are still there.

When you think about that list it makes you wonder just how our game can afford to lose its best coaches as well as its best young players.

Then again if I am wrong about our administrators then overseas clubs will soon be queuing up for them too.

I don't always claim to be right that is why this column's entitled "It's Only an Opinion".

If that proved to be the case then I shall be at the airport ready to wave them all away – maybe we could book a jumbo

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G14 clubs ready to block international releases

By Kevin Fylan

EUROPE'S top soccer clubs have said that they want the right to refuse to give up players for friendly internationals.

The G-14 group of clubs, who held their latest meeting in a Madrid casino, also called for compensation for players called up for all international fixtures and a revised calendar to cut down on mid-season friendlies.

Real Madrid president Lorenzo Sanz, chairman of the group, expressed satisfaction with the way the G-14 has successfully lobbied for greater income from the UEFA Champions' League.

And he signalled that G-14 attention is set to turn to the matter of club compensation for their highly paid players.

"The decision on players' availability for friendlies should be left up to the clubs," Sanz said.

"And with regard to official matches, we believe it is necessary to establish insurance in favour of the clubs, economic compensation from the national associations and a schedule that respects the interests of the clubs."

Sanz added: "We are due to



Sepp Blatter: FIFA facing up to demands from Europe's leading clubs

have a meeting with (FIFA president) Sepp Blatter over this issue of international players.

"In the case of Real Madrid, we have a vital Cup game next week and we'll be missing eight players, some of them because of friendly matches.

"This is a problem that concerns us all and it needs to be addressed."

Sanz said the G-14 would continue to meet in Madrid over the next 12 months — despite the fact that five of their members have no chance of competing in the Champions' League next season.

"We believe the G-14 still has a role to play.

"We're stronger now and we'll continue to work with FIFA and UEFA and to defend our interests."

The G-14 includes Real Madrid, Ajax Amsterdam, Barcelona, Bayern Munich, Borussia Dortmund, Inter Milan, AC Milan, Juventus, Liverpool, Manchester United, Olympique Marseille, Oporto, Paris Saint Germain and PSV Eindhoven.

Only 12 of the clubs were represented at the meeting, with Marseille and Liverpool the missing parties.

George and Michael join Olyroos

A FURTHER two Under-23 players from last weekend's Ericsson Cup Grand Final have been called into the Olyroo camp.

The camp has now moved from the AIS in Canberra, to the headquarters of the NSW Soccer Federation at Parklea.

South Melbourne's George Gotzioulis and Sydney United's Michael Santalab have joined the camp today, replacing Carlton's Marco Bresciano and Sydney Olympic midfielder Jason Culina.

Bresciano has a knee injury which was incurred during his trials with Italian Serie-A side Empoli, and which has not responded to treatment as

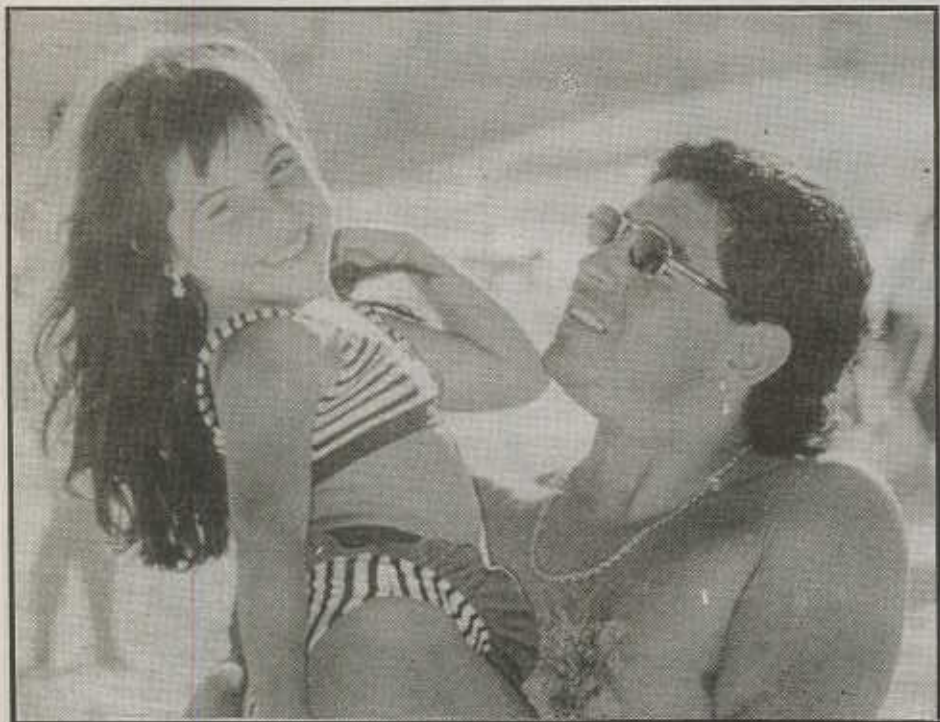


Michael Santalab

hoped.

The Carlton midfielder returns to Melbourne for further treatment and rest, with the same scenario applied in Sydney to Culina, who is suffering from a groin strain.

Maradona's lawyers appeal two year jail sentence



LAWYERS for former Argentinian soccer star Diego Maradona will appeal against a two-year prison sentence imposed on the player for injuring, harming and threatening journalists, lawyer Hugo Wortman Jofre said today.

The lawyer told agency DyN that the defence would be based on "inapplicability of the law" and "nullity of the sentence".

In February 1994 Maradona, who led Argentina to World Cup victory in 1986, fired an air rifle at journalists staking out the house in the Buenos Aires suburb of Moreno where he was spending a weekend.

Wortman Jofre said the appeal would be made in the Mercedes Penal Chamber in the west of Buenos Aires province to try and annul the sentence imposed by judge

Dante Pietrafesa.

If this fails then the matter would be taken to the Buenos Aires supreme court and then the national Supreme Court.

Previously Maradona's defence team had sought for the sentence to be reduced to two years from the original demand of two years and 10 months but now they want the sentence annulled.

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Ronaldo back for Copa, but dream wedding is off

BRAZILIAN soccer star Ronaldo says he has fully recovered from the knee injuries that blighted his last soccer season and is close to getting back to his best.

The Inter Milan player has struggled for form and fitness since suffering a fit hours before the World Cup final in July.

The 22-year-old Brazilian forward insisted: "I will get back to being as good as I was."

Ronaldo told Spanish sports daily Marca: "It's been tough getting over my injuries but I've worked hard on my recovery and I can now say I don't have any problems with my knees."

Ronaldo played his first game for Brazil since the World Cup in a friendly against Barcelona in April and made an immediate impression, scoring one goal and setting up his side's second in a 2-2 draw.

He dropped out of the Brazil squad for the two games against the Netherlands but is confident of returning in time for the Copa America which starts in Paraguay on June 29.

"It's just a slight muscle problem that's keeping me out at the moment," Ronaldo said.

"But I've never suffered a torn muscle so it doesn't worry me. I should be able to play in the Copa America."

"I'm still confident in my own ability and that's by far the most important thing. I'm convinced I'll be the same player I was."

Meanwhile, in Rio de Janeiro, Ronaldo released a statement saying he had called it quits with his fiancée Susana Werner, Deutsche Presse-Agentur reported.

"We were a normal pair. We had problems. We had a bad fight and separated," the star striker announced.

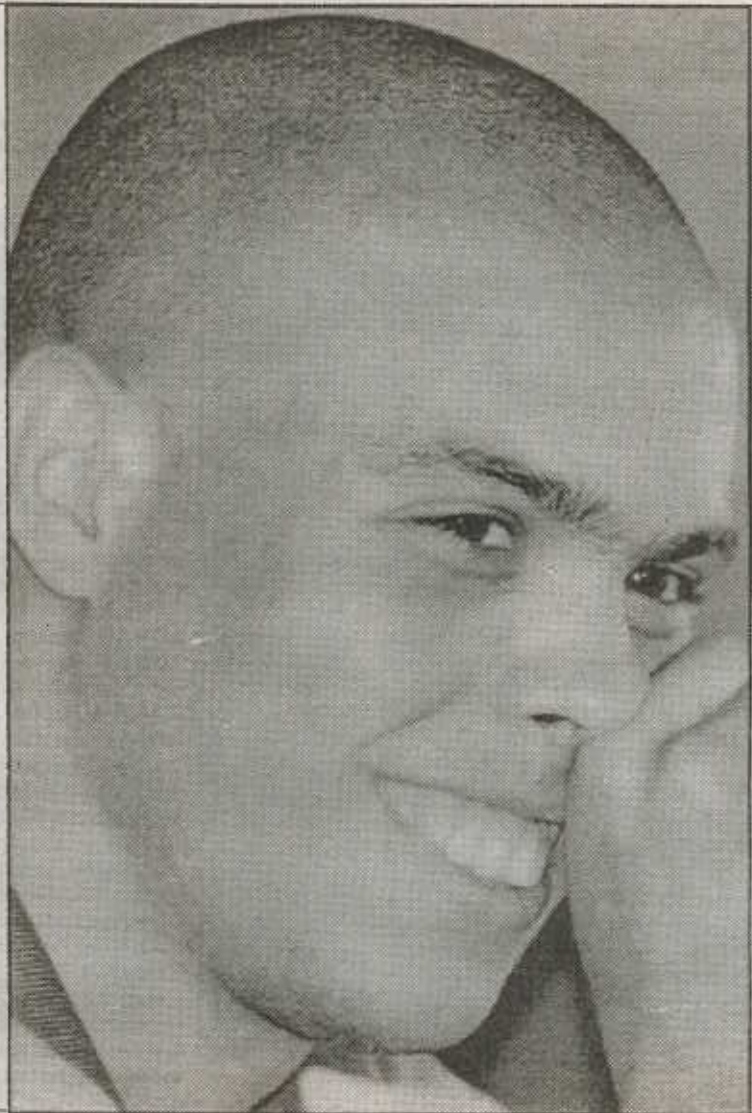
"The split is final."

The 22-year-old football genius and his sexy international model and television personality had been seen by Brazilians as a dream couple.

Ronaldo's mother Sonia had made plain her approval during a 1998 interview at her home in the Rio suburb of Jacarepagua.

"Susana is a nice girl and would make a nice daughter-in-law," she said.

For more than two years, the Brazilian media had regularly speculated on a wedding date for the couple.



Former North Korean national coach defects

A FORMER head coach of the North Korean national football team has defected to South Korea after escaping the famine-stricken state in 1998, intelligence officials said at the weekend.

Yun Myong-Chan, 50, who served as North Korea's head coach between 1990 and 1994, had arrived and sought asylum in South Korea last April.

"He is still under investigation," the official said, giving no further details.

Yun is the first known North Korean sports official to defect to South Korea.

He was a member of the North Korea team which competed in the 1973 Asian preliminary rounds for the World Cup.

He had visited South Korea in 1990 and 1991, leading the North Korean team for an inter-Korean matches.

The Yonhap news agency said Yun was demoted in 1994 from head coach to a worker in a sports goods factory in Pyongyang, the North Korean capital.

Around 300 North Koreans have defected to South Korea in the past five years, complaining of severe food shortages in the isolated state.

South Korea and North Korea are still technically at war since the Korean War ended in the signing of an armistice and a permanent peace treaty was never signed.

CARLTON OFFER TRIALS

CARLTON is offering trials for its Colts and Academy youth teams to players born between 1981 and 1985.

The trials will take place on Tuesday June 29 at Essendon Royals Soccer Club in Moonee Ponds.

Interested players must contact the club before June 23 to register.

Japan and South Korea jointly unveil 'symbolic' 2002 World Cup emblem

JAPAN and South Korea set the publicity bandwagon for their joint World Cup rolling last week, unveiling a logo for the 2002 event that organisers said symbolised Asian culture, soccer and Mother Nature.

The emblem for the first World Cup to be held in Asia was presented simultaneously in Tokyo and Seoul.

It features a series of sweeping curves inside a multi-coloured circle which combine to form an image of the famous trophy.

The emblem has sections in green, red, yellow, white, gold and purple which symbolise nature, passion for soccer, hope, purity and sportsmanship, the trophy and the earth.

"All other previous World Cup emblems tried to emphasise characteristics of host countries. But this emblem tries to symbolise Asian culture," said FIFA Vice President Chung Mong-joon at the Seoul presentation.

"We chose a circular shape because it is highly relevant," said Chris Lightfoot, creative director at Interbrand, the London-based firm that spent two years designing

the emblem.

"The circle has been part of the Asian culture for many centuries, having symbolised the universe, the sun, the world and even life itself."

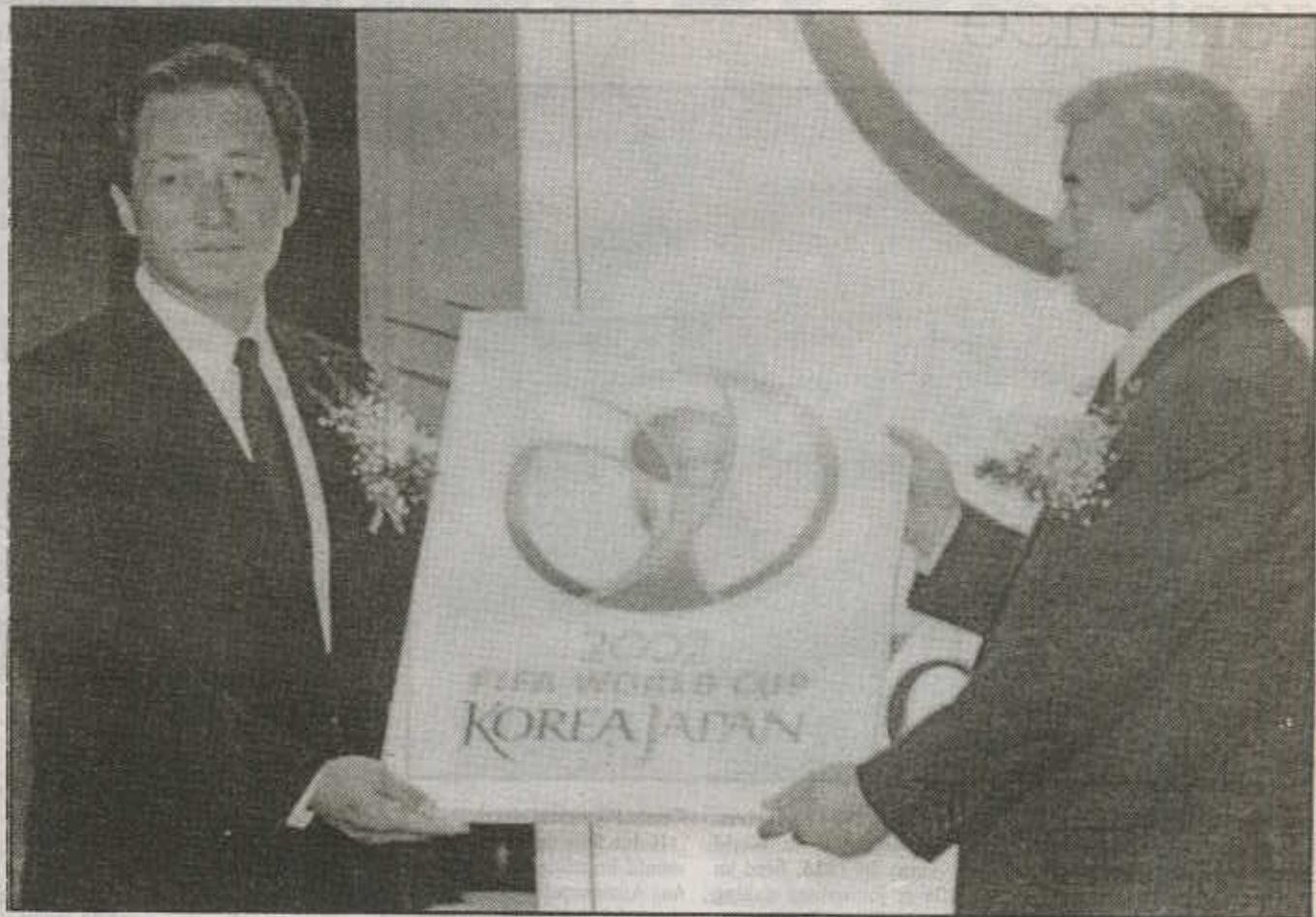
FIFA president Sepp Blatter said in a recorded interview that the unveiling of the emblem marked the real start of the tournament, although the first match is three years away.

"From this moment on, the event has a real identity - the fans, the media and everyone else can associate with it more easily," he said.

Branding experts said that FIFA has moved early to boost the tournament's profile after its failure last year to trademark the words "World Cup" during France '98.

The new logo reflected efforts to brand the tournament more forcibly in the same way that the National Football League (NFL) and the World Wrestling Federation (WWF) in the United States have become consumer brands.

"Having FIFA as part of the name is another layer of protection for people who are buying official merchandise," said Andy Milligan, di-



rector at logo deviser Interbrand Newell and Sorrell, a global brand consultancy owned by Omnicom Group Inc.

Global sports marketing company ISL said it expects up to 14 official

sponsors of the 2002 event, with six already confirmed, each paying around \$35 million.

ISL said last summer that it would cut the number of local companies involved with the tourna-

ment in Asia to under 30 from some 45 in 1998.

Some advertisers sidestepped FIFA by sponsoring individual teams or players during the last Cup in France.

One company even

floated an airship above a key game to gain TV coverage.

Research after the tournament found many consumers could not differentiate between official and unofficial sponsors.

"It's impossible to totally prevent ambushing but that is obviously part of their intent," said Richard Busby, chief executive of consultancy BDS Sponsorship.

SIMPLY RED

IT'S MAGIC

MARK BOSNICH

Edited and compiled
by Bruce Campbell

AUSTRALIAN Mark Bosnich is relishing the challenge of stepping into Peter Schmeichel's boots after signing a four-year deal to replace the great Dane as Manchester United goalkeeper last week.

The 27-year-old completed his free transfer from Aston Villa after agreeing a contract believed to be worth almost £7 million (\$A17.6 million).

"The chance of replacing Peter was the main bait for me to come to Manchester United - not something I was frightened of," said Bosnich, who played for United briefly seven years ago.

In re-signing for United Bosnich has turned down chances to play in Italy and Spain where he was offered more lucrative deals.

United chairman Martin Edwards described Bosnich as "a very brave man" to take over the mantle of Schmeichel.

But the player who left Old Trafford seven years ago because United could not get a new work permit for him said: "I could not have found myself sitting in Italy or Spain, having turned down the chance to follow Peter Schmeichel."

"I could not have looked at myself in the mirror if I had done that."

Bosnich will officially join the European champions on July 1 when his contract at Villa runs out.

His departure from Villa Park has caused some anger among fans of the Midlands club, but Bosnich said: "If there is any animosity it doesn't come from my end."

"I would just like to thank the Villa fans for the way they've treated me while I have been there."

"From my point of view I have only good memories of Villa."

"They gave me the chance to fulfil my dreams of playing in the top flight in England."

Bosnich originally made his debut for United in 1990 under Alex Ferguson but was forced to leave England after immigration authorities cancelled his student's visa.

He made his debut for United against Wimbledon but played only three first team games before leaving Old Trafford.

After returning to Sydney United in 1992 he found himself unable to get a regular game, kept out of the club's first grade side by long time playing rival Zeljko Kalac.

While preparing with the Australian Olympic team Bos-

nich bought out his contract from United for a sum believed to have been in the region of \$10,000.

But his British agent had already fixed him up in England and Bosnich returned to England where he and married his English girlfriend - and then the need for that work permit disappeared.

Former United reserve team coach Brian Whitehouse was on the staff at Villa and Bosnich signed under the management of flamboyant Ron Atkinson, once a Soccerroo coaching possibility.

Ferguson, incensed at the time, said: "After all we have done for him, I am very disappointed to say the least to hear he has joined Villa."

"We had a definite understanding that if he came back to England it would be to join us."

Bosnich said of the possibility of Ferguson harbouring a grudge: "Alex hasn't said anything about that to me."

"If he was still angry with me about it, surely I would not be standing here now."

And United chairman Martin Edwards added: "The manager decided on Mark as the replacement for Schmeichel some while ago."

"But we have been unable to talk to him until the end of the season, although foreign clubs have been able to."

"We had to sit and wait and hope that Mark didn't lose patience and go somewhere else."

In joining United, Bosnich has come full circle after starting his British career with Manchester nearly a decade ago.

While promised to United, he joined Aston Villa in the belief he would struggle to break into the United team ahead of Danish international Peter Schmeichel.

With Schmeichel now retired, Bosnich was welcomed back at Old Trafford where he will rejoin his good friend, striker Dwight Yorke.

Bosnich started and finished his career at Aston Villa in controversy.

In 1993, the Birmingham club was fined £20,000 (\$A50,000) by the Football Association over irregularities surrounding his transfer.

Later that year, Bosnich was suspended for one match by FIFA when he failed to play for Australia in a World Cup clash against Canada.

In his most infamous incident in 1996, he was fined £1,000 (\$A2,500) and censured after being found guilty of misconduct when he angered Tottenham's many Jewish supporters with a

sich bought out his contract from United for a sum believed to have been in the region of \$10,000.

He's the most controversial Australian soccer player in history: cited for giving a Nazi salute he once turned his back on a handshake deal with Manchester United before going back last week as the richest Aussie in the history of the round ball game.

In between, he was shunted by Sydney United and sold for a paltry \$10,000 - read all about Mark Bosnich in *Inside Soccer's* 4 page SIMPLY RED special.



Nazi salute.

In May this year, amid speculation he was bound for Manchester, Bosnich refused to confirm where his future lay and Aston Villa coach Gregory finally lost patience and dropped him from the team to play United.

It has been a difficult season for Bosnich, who lost his first team place at Villa to Michael Oakes after a shoulder surgery, but the Australian said: "Although I was out for four months I've been back at 100 per cent since then."

It will be the first time a player has moved between two Premiership clubs under the Bosman ruling and Bosnich has been criticised by Villa chairman Doug Ellis.

He has so far refused to hit back but hinted strongly that he will once the deal has gone through.

"Once everything is signed and sealed I will then have my say about a number of things that have been going on," he vowed.

"The challenge is to see

whether or not I can fill Peter Schmeichel's shoes.

"It's going to be a huge task but we will have to wait and see."

Bosnich last year refused to renew his contract after eight years with Villa and has made it clear for months that he wanted to join United, who this season completed an unprecedented treble of English league title and FA and European Cups.

Details have not been released but the deal has been reported to be worth around £1 million (\$A2.5 million) a year in wages for Bosnich plus a bonus of around £2 million (\$A5 million) as a signing-on fee spread over the length of his contract.

"I am pleased to be here," said Bosnich. "I served three great years here and I have never forgotten that time."

And Bosnich could well make his United debut on a pre-season tour to Australia but will step into Schmeichel's role for real when the club start the defence of their Pre-

iership, FA Cup and European Cup trophies in August.

He said: "United have had a fantastic season, and Schmeichel is going to be a hard act to follow."

"But my main concern is being part of the continuity here to keep the club going forward."

"I just want to be part of a successful future here."

"If I can blend into the background and nobody notices the change that will be fine by me."

It's not quite having a dollar each way, but Australian goalkeeper Mark Bosnich could yet play for both the Soccerroos and Manchester United when the Red Devils tour down under next month.

Manchester United will arrive in Australia in early July for pre-season matches against the Soccerroos on July 15 in Melbourne and July 18 in Sydney.

Soccer Australia chairman Basil Scarsella foreshadowed a situation where Bosnich could turnout for both sides in

the friendlies.

"Who he plays for is something for the two coaches to sort out between themselves," Scarsella told *Inside Soccer*.

"We could insist he plays for us but that's not something we're going to do."

"I'm sure (United coach) Alex Ferguson, having just signed him, will want him to play for United."

"And if that's the case then that's fine by us."

"But maybe we could work it out that plays a one game for each team, who knows."

Scarsella admitted it was a win-win situation for SA.

No matter which team Bosnich played for, it would be good publicity for the match and if he turned out for United it would give Australia a chance to use two goalkeepers in a match.

Bosnich will be in Australia later this week for the match against the FIFA World XI which marks the official opening of Stadium Australia on June 12.

SIMPLY RED: **MAGIC MARK BOSNICH**

Bozza waits for the first half - after getting out of nick on time

MANCHESTER United goalkeeper Mark Bosnich made it to the church on time - only to be kept waiting for 45 minutes by his bride-to-be.

The Australian player - who was in police custody after an alleged assault and robbery of a camera from a photographer just five hours before the service - wed fiancée Sarah Jarrett in a lavish ceremony at Coventry's luxurious Coombe Abbey Hotel.

The wedding had been thrown into doubt when Bosnich was arrested at his home in Little Aston on Saturday morning after the incident near a Birmingham lap-dancing club hours earlier.

The 27-year-old was questioned by police for three-and-a-half hours and later released on bail without being charged.

He has to report to the police again on July 21.

Bosnich is alleged to have robbed photographer Jamie Jones of his \$A3,868 camera, which was later recovered by police officers.

Jones was understood to have been working for a national newspaper at the time of the incident.

Bosnich's manager Leo Karis issued a statement in Sydney that the former Aston Villa keeper initially thought Jones was a mugger.

Karis said Bosnich had driven his car to meet a friend on the corner where the club is situated, but had been told by the club doorman that his friend was at a bar down the



Legs Eleven, unlucky for some

By Rachael Crofts

Manchester United goalkeeper Mark Bosnich was released on police bail after being arrested on suspicion of robbing a press photographer outside a lap-dancing club in the early hours of Friday morning.

West Midlands Police said Bosnich had been bailed to reappear at Birmingham's Steelhouse Lane Police station on July 21 - three days after United plays Australia in Sydney.

The 27-year-old Australian, of Little Aston, Staffordshire, left Sutton Coldfield police station by a rear door and was whisked away by a waiting car.

Bosnich, who was wearing dark sunglasses, declined to comment on the alleged incident which occurred outside Birmingham's Legs Eleven Nightclub in the early hours.

Bosnich was arrested at his home.

Bosnich had driven to the club to meet two friends but contrary to earlier reports, he was not on his bucks night, which had been the previous night, and had not gone into the Legs Eleven club.

Unable to find his friend at the club, Bosnich was told to check a nearby bar.

As he turned to get back into his car, a man jumped towards him and the pair fell to the ground.

When the man started taking photos, Bosnich took his camera off him and drove home, where he was arrested a few hours later.

Bosnich's Australian manager Leo Karis said Bosnich had intended to return the camera.

A West Midlands Police spokeswoman said on Friday: "Officers were called to an incident in Wrotesley Street in Birmingham city centre at 1.48am (10.48am AEST) in the early hours of this morning, where a man from the Birmingham area alleged that he had been attacked and robbed."

"A 27-year-old man from Little Aston, Staffordshire, was arrested at 7am (4pm AEST) on suspicion of robbery."

The alleged assault and robbery victim was believed to be an agency photographer who was understood to have been working for a national newspaper at the time of the incident.

Speaking from his home in Small Heath, Birmingham, photographer Jamie Jones declined to comment.



At the cricket with best mate and now fellow United player Dwight Yorke

road.

"As Bosnich turned to get back into his car, a man jumped out toward him. Bosnich and the man fell to the ground. Bosnich's initial thoughts were that he was a mugger," Karis said.

The two men tussled and Bosnich had taken the photographer's camera and driven straight home, he added.

After the wedding Bosnich looked relaxed and happy as he posed with his bride under the Abbeygate entrance to the 16th Century hotel.

His bride, who wore a full length white sleeveless satin gown, long white gloves, and carried a spray of white lillies, was followed down the aisle by five bridesmaids dressed in gold and white.

The couple refused to answer reporters' questions, while fellow United star and best man Dwight Yorke also declined, telling waiting journalists: "I'm not saying anything, this is Bossie's big day."

Around 70 guests attended the ceremony, including a number of Manchester United players.

The reception was held in the Abbey's grounds.

The Australian player, who was born in the Sydney suburb of Fairfield, has been known for his flamboyant behaviour on the pitch and is no stranger to controversy.

In 1996 he was found guilty of misconduct Football Association after angering Tottenham supporters with a Hitler salute at an Aston Villa game at White Hart Lane. A year later he walked out of Pride Park before a match against Derby County when he was



named as a substitute and he refused to sit on the bench.

His marriage on Saturday was not his first. Bosnich left Manchester United in 1992 to

play for Sydney Croatia following problems with his work permit but returned to marry his English girlfriend. The couple later divorced.

Bosnich signed a four-year deal with United on Wednesday and has the huge task of replacing Dane Peter Schmeichel.

Profile

MARK BOSNICH

- 1972: Born Fairfield, New South Wales, January 13.
- 1989: Joined Manchester United on free transfer from Sydney Croatia (now known as Sydney United)
- 1991: Bosnich buys out his contract after just three games at Old Trafford and returns to Australia.
- 1992: Moves to Aston Villa on a free transfer.



- 1993: Villa fined Stg20,000 (\$A50,000) by the Football Association over irregularities surrounding Bosnich's transfer.

Player suspended for one match by FIFA when he failed to play for Australia in a World Cup clash against Canada.

- 1994: Helped Villa win the Coca-Cola Cup, beating Manchester United 3-1 in the final.

- 1995: Involved in a controversial clash with Tottenham forward Jurgen Klinsmann.

- 1996: Gained second Coca-Cola Cup winners' medal as Villa beat Leeds 3-0 in the final. Bosnich fined Stg1,000 (\$A2,500) and censured over his future conduct after being found guilty of misconduct after angering Tottenham supporters with a Hitler salute during the second half of Villa's game at White Hart Lane on October 12.

- 1997: Walked out of Pride Park before a match against Derby when Brian Little named him as a substitute and he refused to sit on the bench.

- 1998: Starts the season in controversial fashion at Everton when he is hauled before the FA over allegations that he made comments to a police man, but was cleared of the charge.

- 1998: Suffered shoulder injury in October clash against Coventry at Highfield Road, which was to rule him



- 1999: out of action for five months. Returned from injury against Derby on March 10. Played his last game for Villa at Liverpool on April 17.

Ordered off the team coach by John Gregory before the trip to Manchester United in May. Bosnich was still refusing to make his mind up over his future and his manager lost his patience with him.

Signed for Manchester United, June 2. Arrested after incident at a lap-dancing nightclub on the eve of his wedding.

Major honours:
English League Cup in 1994 (final against Manchester United) and 1996 with Aston Villa.
Played 179 league games for Villa.
Former Oceania player of the year.
International appearances: 19 for Australia.



SIMPLY RED: MAGIC MARK BOSNICH

Bozza to keep against FIFA World All Stars

By Paul Millar

SOCCEEROO goalkeeper Mark Bosnich will have an enticing dilemma next month - whether to play for Manchester United or the national team.

The keeper is now a Manchester United player after passing a fitness test last Friday.

With United to start its pre-season tour in Melbourne on July 15 and then in Sydney three days later he'll have to decide who to play for.

Soccer Australia is unlikely to enforce FIFA's strict ruling that the national side must come before your club side.

"When the time comes we'll have a word with him and we'll decide who he's playing for," national coach Raul Blanco said.

"One thing is for certain we know he will be coming here," Blanco said.

It's uncertain whether Blanco will be in charge of the national side for United's tour with Soccer Australia expected to make a final bid to entice Englishman Roy Hodgson to take up the job by the end of the month.

Tour organisers Rivkin Entertainment (RE) have already sold 80,000 tickets for the two matches in Australia and expect sales to boom after the Socceroos play the FIFA World XI at the official opening of the Olympic stadium in Sydney on June 12.

The tour has become a promoter's dream with United winning the treble; the European Cup, Premiership and FA Cup this season, and claiming headlines every week.

The cheaper \$60 seats have already been sold out in Melbourne and RE spokesman Berti Mariani said they were now looking at other ways of releasing more budget priced seats.

He said the news on Bosnich replacing Peter Schmeichel was an added bonus.

"The only position we did not have stitched up with a contract was the goalkeeper," Mariani said.

"He'll have a good pre-season as he'll be here with the Socceroos (for the FIFA World XI game) and then Manchester United," Mariani said.



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THE NEXT EDITION of Inside Soccer will be available on Wednesday 16 June owing to the Queens Birthday Bank Holiday.

Don't miss this bumper issue with all the latest from the World XI match, the Football expo and the forthcoming Manchester United tour.



Munro signs Deans, now its time for strike power

By Paul Millar

CARLTON Soccer Club has signed Perth Glory defender Craig Deans and now aims to boost its strike force with Damian Mori and John Anastasiadis on its hit list.

Anastasiadis came off the bench to score two goals for South Melbourne in his club's Grand Final win over Sydney United and made it clear he was not happy at not being named in the starting line-up.

The striker is out of contract and is fed up being used as an impact player by South.

"My contract ends now and who knows it could be my last game at South Melbourne," Anastasiadis said.

Carlton coach Stuart Munro said he was interested but so are others and he has a couple of overseas players to consider.

"He's one of the best positional strikers in the

league, a real poacher and I could be interested," Munro said.

"Really you'd have to be interested in that type of player," he said.

Carlton is also keen on City hot-shot Mori who is still under contract but there are whispers he's considering a move.

"If he becomes available we'll be throwing our hat into the ring," Munro said.

The former Gippsland Falcons coach made his first signing for Carlton, snaring Deans for two years.

The 24-year-old is keen to move to Melbourne, the home of his girlfriend, and Munro needed a tall mobile defender.

Deans fits the bill on both accounts.

"At the moment I'm just trying to replace the players we've lost and replace them with better players," Munro said.



Damian Mori: also a target for Carlton with Sydney club Marconi still the favourite to sign the want-away striker

Veterans' tournament postponed

A "Championship of Heroes" soccer tournament for veteran internationals planned for next month has been postponed, the Caribbean news agency CANA said on Saturday.

CANA reported that the CONCACAF Federation had announced in New York that a contractual dispute had forced the postponement of the tournament but new backers would enable it to go ahead later this year.

The competition, brainchild of CONCACAF Federation president Jack Warner, is planned as a veterans' World Cup, featuring teams from Brazil, England, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, the United States and hosts Trinidad and Tobago.

SCOTS TOP FAIR PLAY

SCOTLAND has won UEFA's fair play competition and gained an extra place in next season's UEFA Cup, the European governing body has said.

The extra place will go to Kilmarnock, who finished top of Scotland's fair play league. A further two out of the eight following nations in the rankings will be allocated an additional UEFA Cup place each after a draw to be held in Lausanne at halftime of Switzerland's European championship qualifier with Italy on June 9.

The countries are: England, Norway, Ukraine, Finland, Estonia, Denmark, Sweden and Germany. The associations which are awarded the additional UEFA Cup places are entitled to enter the winners of their domestic top-division fair play competition, UEFA said in a statement. If that club has already qualified for the UEFA Cup or Champions' League, the best-placed team in the domestic fair-play rankings that has not qualified for Europe will benefit from the place.

On holiday in Oz but Harry will stay at Leeds

SOCCEROO star Harry Kewell has reportedly turned down offers from Italian giant Juventus and agreed terms with English club Leeds for a new four-year contract.

Kewell, 20, has said in the past he would like to play in Italy or Spain in his mid-20s, but was content to stay with Leeds for now.

After a slow start, the Australian ended up having a brilliant season as Leeds surged to finish in the Premier League's top four, featuring in several British newspapers' teams of the season.

Leeds chairman Peter Ridsdale told the Daily Mail he had struck a deal with Kewell's agent and the player was expected to sign during his current holiday in Australia.

"We have faxed the contract to Harry in Australia and are just awaiting his signature," said club chairman Peter Ridsdale.

"It was very important that Harry agreed to stay for a sensible length of time.

"It is encouraging that so many of the talented young players who did so well for us last seasons want to stay here under David O'Leary."

Viduka's former club at centre of corruption allegations

CROATIA'S national soccer league is rigged by politicians, secret police and referees with underworld connections, an independent weekly alleged at the weekend.

The report appeared a week after a dubious off-side ruling in the waning minutes of the season finale which prevented front-running Rijeka from winning its first league title.

The result, a 1-1 draw with Osijek, enabled Croatia Zagreb, the darling of politicians in the governing Croatian Democratic Union and President Franjo Tudjman, to clinch its fifth crown.

"Clubs, reporters and fans are bugged, while bribed referees are instructed to rule in favour of Croatia Zagreb," the weekly Nacional asserted in a front-page feature.

The paper, which often is critical of the Tudjman government but has well-placed sources, cited what it said were intelligence service documents.

The report alleged that politicians of the ruling party who manage Croatia Zagreb abused their powers to divert public funds to the club and provide it with plush facilities.

Club president Zlatko Canjuga, who is also president of the Zagreb municipal government, denied the allegations and told the daily Jutarnji List that the club would pursue legal charges against the paper.

Many sports fans believe corruption is rife within the league and that match-fixing denied Rijeka of the title because the northern port city, which supports the club, is run by the main opposition political party, the Social Democrats.

Nacional alleged that a syndicate had been set up among referees to ensure that referees calls went in favour of Croatia Zagreb.

The report said phones of journalists who had written critically about Croatia were being tapped and that some fans who criticised the politicisation of the club were being stalked or put under surveillance.

Angry supporters have often clashed with police or organised boycotts of the teams matches.

The head of the national referee association, Veselko Bebek, announced his resignation after an amateur video and freeze-frame footage clearly showed the linesman making erroneous



Mark Viduka: his Croatia Zagreb club is at the centre of a corruption scandal which has rocked Croatian sport

calls in the crucial Rijeka-Osijek match last Wednesday.

"The alliance between politics and sports has become starkly obvious

to everyone," said Hrvoje Sarinic, a top executive of Rijeka and former top adviser to Tudjman.

"A terrible atmosphere has descended upon

Croatian sport, particularly in soccer, where the championship is reserved in advance for one club only," he said.

INTERTOTO CUP

First round

1. Brann Bergen (Norway) v Ventspils (Latvia)
2. Spartak Varna (Bulgaria) v St Truiden (Belgium)
3. Polonia Warsaw (Poland) v Tiligul (Moldova)
4. Pobeda (Macedonia) v OD Trencin (Slovakia)
5. Rudar Velenje (Slovenia) v Halmstad (Sweden)
6. Herfolge (Denmark) v MSK Zilina (Slovakia)
7. FCM Bacau (Romania) v Ararat (Armenia)
8. Lokomotiv Vitebsk (Belarus) v Varteks (Croatia)
9. US Luxembourg (Luxembourg) v Vasas (Hungary)
10. Shelbourne (Ireland) v N'chatel or Lucerne (SW)
11. Ceahlaut (Romania) v Ekranas (Lithuania)
12. Hradec (Czech Republic) v Gomel (Belarus)
13. Dragovoljac (Croatia) v Newry Town (N Ireland)
14. Maccabi Haifa (Israel) v Karabakh (Azerbaijan)
15. Cementarnica (Macedonia) v Kolkheti (Georgia)
16. Korotan (Slovenia) v Basle (Switzerland)
17. Bosnia representative v GI Gotu (Faroe Islands)
18. Aberystwyth Town (Wales) v Floriana (Malta)
19. Akranes (Iceland) v Teuta Dures (Albania)
20. Jokerit (Finland) v Trans Narva (Estonia)

First leg - June 19 or 20, Second leg - June 26 or 27

Second round

- A. Perugia (Italy) v Winners 4
- B. MSV Duisburg (Germany) v Winners 13
- C. Winners 16 v Bobby Brno (Czech Republic)
- D. Winners 15 v Rostselmash Rostov (Russia)
- E. Bodo Glimt (Norway) v Winners 8
- F. Winners 5 v Lustenau (Austria)
- G. Lokeren (Belgium) v Winners 19
- H. Winners 6 v Spain representative
- I. FC Copenhagen (Denmark) v Winners 3
- J. Hammarby (Sweden) v Winners 12
- K. Winners 1 v Kocaelispor (Turkey)
- L. Winners 14 v Montpellier (France)
- M. Winners 7 v Winners 2
- N. Winners 10 v Winners 9
- O. Winners 20 v Winners 18
- P. Winners 11 v Winners 17

First leg - July 3 or 4, Second leg - July 10 or 11

Third round

- Spain representative v Winners L
- Winners P v Juventus (Italy)
- Trabzonspor (Turkey) v Winners A
- Heerenveen (Netherlands) v Winners J
- West Ham United (England) v Winners O
- Winners F v Rennes (France)
- Hamburg SV (Germany) v Winners C
- Winners M v Austria Vienna (Austria)
- Winners E v Winners D
- Winners K v Winners B
- Winners G v Winners H
- Winners I v Winners N

Three qualify for UEFA Cup

First leg - July 17 or 18, Second leg - July 24

Anissa Tann-Darby is looking for a medal but warns her team-mates

DON'T TAKE GHANA LIGHTLY

By Ted Simmons

AUSTRALIA'S longest serving player Anissa Tann-Darby has warned her team-mates to treat the opening match against Ghana in the women's soccer World Cup as a grand final.

Tann-Darby, with 67 caps for Australia, arrived in the United States last week with the team to play four warm up matches before the June 20 group game against Ghana.

"We have to get through the first round and then see how well we play after that," she said. "Ghana won't be easybeats and had some good results recently against China who are one of the top teams in the world."

Australia's qualifying path in Oceania was easy compared with Europe and elsewhere, she said, and the team needed more away tours to play stronger opposition.

"I've brought nothing back so far from two previous World Cup campaigns and I'm reserving a medal place for this series."

The Australians, who finished last in the 1995 World Cup, are a vastly improved team and have shown the benefit of a professional programme at the Australian Institute of Sport.

They have been drawn to play Ghana, Sweden and China in Group D of the 16-team tournament and are currently rated eighth in the world.

Tann-Darby, at 31, became the first Australian to reach the 50 internationals milestone in August 1997 when recalled by coach Greg Brown, after being dropped earlier from the national squad.

A central defender with a strong burst of speed, her experience has been a bonus in marshalling her younger team-mates.

Newcomer Peita-Claire Hepperlin, the baby of the squad at 17 and with only two caps, will be fighting to win a central midfield place in the talented squad.

"Once we get to our training headquarters, it will really hit us about taking part in the World Cup," she said.

"Although the biggest

crowd I've faced has only been 6,000, nerves have not been a worry. I spend my time before a game reading messages of congratulations and cards

which settles me. It's going to be hard to break into the starting line-up and I've spent my time on the bench. But this team is very close and we

know each other well."

Team captain Julie Murray, with 58 international caps, said nine of the 20-member squad had played in the 1995 series.

She said the AIS programme had made a huge difference in the players who now had a visible professional approach on and off the field.

Organisers expect the Cup to attract 550,000 spectators and have forecast an average of 29,000 attending each game.



Murray probes but Matildas downed by US

THE Australian women's soccer team was beaten 4-0 by Olympic gold medallist United States in a World Cup warm-up

match in Portland, Oregon.

The game was the Matildas' first hit-out since their arrival in the

US on Monday and the first of four games in preparation for the third FIFA women's World Cup starting June 19.

Australia has never beaten the US, current world No.1 and hot favourite for the World Cup, and the result of this match was not of great significance.

National coach Greg Brown wanted the Matildas to focus on fine-tuning their own game.

The Matildas got off to a bad start, conceding a goal to Danielle Fotopoulos in the first minute of play, with not one Australian having touched the ball.

The Australians finally settled down and displayed some encouraging football of their own, going to halftime 1-0 down. The Matildas' best scoring opportunity fell to captain Julie Murray on the half-hour but was easily gathered by US goalkeeper Saskia Webber.

Murray was on the attack again in the 32nd minute but was fouled by defender Christie Pearce.

The American was yellow-carded but could well have been sent off as she was the last defender. Two quick goals to US pair Cindy Parlow and Kristine Lilly midway through the second half killed off Aus-



tralia's chances, and Tiffeny Milbrett scored the fourth with five minutes remaining.

Matildas' striker Cheryl Salisbury was unlucky with two attempts whistling past the post.

Outstanding for Australia was goalkeeper Tracey Wheeler, Joanne Peters in midfielder and

defender Traci Bartlett.

"Losing the early goal didn't help, but the players composed themselves okay," Brown said.

"Once settled, we had a good spell in the last 20 minutes of the first half."

"We tired with the heat and travel and it was hard for the subs to come on and contribute

in the conditions.

"The hit-out will do us the world of good and we'll be more settled come Sunday to have a good go at Brazil."

In the first match of the double-header, Brazil fought off a determined Canada to win 4-2 after Canada had taken the early lead.



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Brown optimistic of World Cup hopes

By Ted Simmons

A NEW breed of professionalism could bring the Australian women's soccer team its first medal when it contests the third World Cup in the United States in late June.

The Australians, rated eighth in the world, are currently on a series of four warm-up matches before their opening Cup group game against Ghana in Boston.

Former Soccerroo and national women's coach Greg Brown, who will be handling his first World Cup campaign, said the past year at the Australian Institute of Sport had transformed the team.

"They have improved so much under the programme. They expect professionalism from each other and demand it from themselves in commitment, recovery and attitude," Brown said.

"Under the programme, I

now believe we are ahead of a lot of other countries but we still trail in field performances.

"We're half-way through a two year programme aimed at the Sydney Olympics and the World Cup will be a test to show what stage we've reached."

Brown listed the opening matches against Ghana and Sweden as the litmus test for the Australians which will determine whether they continue through to the quarter-finals.

Ghana, with some good recent results against China, is an unknown quantity and Brown is waiting on videos to examine its form.

The Australians beat Sweden on their last overseas tour as well as posting recent wins against Korea and Olympic silver medallist China.

"The draw in Group D against Ghana, Sweden and

China is favourable to us and the bigger grounds in the United States will also suit the Australian game," Brown said.

"There could be 30,000 people at the match against Brazil and this will help further acclimatise the Australians, especially the younger players."

For the first time, the team has been fully outfitted in its own uniform instead of having to wear smaller size men's gear.

Brown said the uniforms had given the players an extra sense of feeling good as well as looking smart which would be a further bonus.

"But I'm nowhere near finalising my first team. I've concentrated on building a good squad and selection will depend on the warm-up games. I will let the players pick themselves by their performances," he said.

SOCCER EXTRA

Hall of Fame embarrassment

FORMER England soccer captain Gary Lineker and his rugby counterpart Will Carling narrowly avoided a potentially embarrassing encounter at a party to promote soccer's FA Premier League Hall of Fame on Sunday.

Their close friendship has cooled since Carling walked out on Ali Cockayne, the sister of Lineker's wife Michelle, last September.

Carling and Lineker both attended a preview party for the new Stg8.5 million (\$A21.14 million) museum in central London, which opens to the public on Saturday.

Lineker said in an interview just over three weeks ago: "I haven't seen Will for a while."

"Obviously Ali is Michelle's sister, but she's like my little sister too. I've known her since she was 11 so we've always had that brother-sister relationship."

On Sunday, Carling inspected full-sized wax figures of footballing greats Dennis Bergkamp, Eric Cantona, Les Ferdinand, Peter Schmeichel, Alan Shearer and Gianfranco Zola, which are expected to help bring punters pouring into the new attraction.

The models form part of a massive multi-media exhibi-

tion celebrating all aspects of the sport and its traditions. Carling left before Lineker, with sons George, seven, and Harry, five, arrived at the event.

Lineker, asked how things were with Carling, said: "Things are fine. There's no problem."

Of the Hall of Fame, Lineker said: "This has got to be a good thing. There is such a thirst for football in this country that this will be a major attraction."

Hall of Fame chairman Sir Geoff Hurst, England's hat-

trick hero in their 1966 World Cup final victory over West Germany, said: "This concept is long overdue - they have them abroad and it's right that we should honour the greats of the game."

Asked about criticisms of the fact that four of the first six inductees are foreign, he said: "They were voted for and have made an outstanding contribution to the Premier League and football in this country."

"They are players who have added a dimension to our game."

SOCCER BID

SOUTH Africa and Morocco submitted bids to the African Soccer Confederation (CAF) on Sunday to stage the 2006 World Cup, the confederation's chief executive said.

"I received the nomination bids from South Africa and Morocco in an executive session of the CAF and I can say we have realistic ambitions of holding the World Cup in 2006 in Africa," Issa Hayatou said.

Irvin Khoza, chairman of the South African bid committee, said his group had told CAF executives it was able to meet all of FIFA's criteria regarding telecommunications, security and infrastructure. Morocco, which has twice unsuccessfully bid for the World Cup, said they were continuing their bid. There were rumours they would drop out of the race.

"We are here to say that Morocco is mobilised for its candidacy and we have behind us everyone from the king to the man on the street," said Driss Benhima, head of the Moroccan bidding team.

Davie Mitchell considering future with United

By Paul Millar

THE powerbrokers at Sydney United will make the most of the next month, putting together a package to convince coach Dave Mitchell that he should stay with the Ericsson Cup club.

Mitchell, whose side stunned the opposition by making the Grand Final, will take a break to attend a coaching clinic and then see what the cash-shy club's board will come up with.

United went down 3-2 to South Melbourne in a thriller at Olympic Park and it is almost certain that more than half the Pumas' side is now considering offers from cashed-up clubs.

For two seasons Mitchell has built a team virtually from scratch, on a budget where shoestring is regarded as just another bill to be paid.

Some of Mitchell's players are on \$100 a game. He said at Northern Spirit they are on around \$150,000 a year and it was hard to compete with the richer clubs financially.

His big concern is that United will lose five or six of its best and the committee will decide to blood more youngsters and he would be forced



to start again.

"I've rebuilt from scratch in the past but for them to expect me to do it for a third year is a bit much," Mitchell said.

"If they say they can't afford (to keep players or buy talent) they have to look at whether they want to be in the league."

Mitchell is concerned that filling the gap with untried youngsters would result in a mid-table finish for two or three years.

He has been offered other

jobs and is also tipped for the national job if Englishman Roy Hodgson passes it up.

However he's keen to stay, but wants the club to hang on to at least the core of the Grand Final side.

Disappointed with the loss, Mitchell is still up beat about making the Grand Final with a club which many thought would not see out the season.

He's hopeful if he stays that the loyalty he has built up amongst his playing staff will

convince others to stay on, even though it might cost them money.

"But there's a real buzz at the moment, sponsors are

showing interest ... maybe something will get worked out," Mitchell said. "I'm just going to wait and see what happens."

Britain's Labour party signs up soccer manager

BRITAIN'S ruling Labour party hopes that enlisting triumphant Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson will help it to its own European victory in elections this week, newspapers reported on Sunday.

Ferguson, whose team won the soccer European Cup on Wednesday with a 2-1 victory in Barcelona over Germany's Bayern Munich, has backed Labour in previous elections.

The popular Scot is likely to appear in poster and video campaigns for elections to the European parliament, reports in early Sunday editions said.

"All-conquering football manager Alex Ferguson is being enlisted to help Labour achieve its own European triumph," The Observer said.

The United boss is a lifelong Labour supporter and a friend of Prime Minister Tony Blair's press secretary Alistair Campbell.

INSIDE SOCCER

Australia's weekly soccer Bible
OUT EVERY TUESDAY

Berries make it two in a row

By Patrick Galloway

Canterbury - Marrickville notched up their second consecutive win in as many games last Sunday at Henson Park, downing Eastern Suburbs three goals to one.

Nick Bosevski was the man who stood out for the Berries, putting away two excellent chances which enabled the Berries to dictate play throughout proceedings.

Canterbury - Marrickville now move to 31 points in what is a densely populated mid-table, consisting of the likes of Parramatta, Leichhardt, Bankstown and Fairfield.

Sides that, on their day, can match it with the very best in the competition.

The match began with neither side really willing to take risks, and so the first twenty minutes passed the lacklustre crowd at Henson Park by without any action.

In the 25th minute this was to change.

A move wide on the right by Canterbury's midfield duo of Jane Talceviski and Simon Fedele saw Fedele with time to place a floating cross in to the back post.

The ball fell to the feet of Nick Bosevski, who was given that extra two centimetres by his Eastern Suburbs opponent Peter Pulicino, allowing him to face up to goal.

Bosevski quickly fired the ball goal-wards and was looking skywards in appreciation after the ball ricocheted off East's sweeper Yavuz Ekinici, wrong footing Adam Mark in the Eastern Sub-

urbs goal, and cruelly hitting the inside of the post before nestling itself in the back of the net for a 1-0 lead to Canterbury - Marrickville.

The game continued to sway Canterbury's way, with the timely runs of sweeper Jose Mendez creating the extra man and more often than not panicking the Eastern Suburbs defence.

In the 36th minute, another Canterbury opportunity followed, with Bosevski playing a delightful ball through to Talceviski, who then beat his opposing defender Yavuz Ekinici and cut the ball back to that same man Bosevski, who sprinted onto the ball and let go with a lethal shot - fortunately for Eastern Suburbs, he fired wide.

Canterbury's domination of the first half was insulted in the 44th minute, when a Bosevski cross in East's last third was unexpectedly intercepted by George Maglis, who caught the Berries' midfield all pushing forward.

Maglis then put through a pin point pass to Naoki Imaya, who beat his opposite Matt Percy, then calmly dribbled the ball around the fast approaching Steve Tolios and then slotted the ball in at the near post.

Tolios, up until that point had been rarely tested in Canterbury's goal.

The 49th minute gave us an indication of what was to come.

A Mark fumble after an in-swinging Christoforidis corner saw Eastern Suburbs clear only as far



as Talceviski, who shot wide.

Some fifteen minutes later, Mark's obvious weakness to the high ball was exposed once more,

this time resulting in a more detrimental circumstance for Easts - a goal to Bosevski after Mark fumbled and laid helpless on the goal line after being fairly challenged by Canterbury's second half substitute George Kategiannis.

From the resulting goal mouth scramble Bosevski toe-poked the ball home.

In the 74th minute things got even worse for Eastern Suburbs, with Kategiannis getting on the end of a run from Berries captain Matt

Percy, who avoided the sliding tackle of Ekinici and then un-selfishly laid the ball off to Kategiannis, who converted the simplest of opportunities, for a 3-1 end result to Canterbury.

Just one point now separates fourth position from seventh in the NSW Super League, as we etch closer to deciding the Champions.

AND Super League started early with a Tuesday re-arranged fixture between two of the bottom clubs.

The round 13 clash between Central Coast and the Sutherland Sharks was a dour affair played on a clear but cold night at Plum Park, and there was nothing to warm the supporters up as the game ended in a 0-0 draw.

Onto Sunday and in round 19 action it was the battle between first and second as Blacktown City Demons traveled to the Serbian Centre to play Bonnyrigg White Eagles.

Bonnyrigg went into the game a point behind the Demons, and knew that anything less than a win would be a great result for Blacktown.

In a final-type atmosphere the class of Jason Bennett shone through as he scored two expertly taken goals, and set up Damien Brown for the third.

Bonnyrigg had scored through Borislava Dragas to make it 1-1, but Brown's goal right on the stroke of half time and some superb defending kept the inevitable Bonnyrigg pressure out.

After soaking up the pressure Bennett notched his second with a crackling right foot half volley.

That win means Blacktown, who welcomed

back Steve Berry from Sydney United, has a four point lead with just three games to play, and will take some catching now.

Macarthur had a valuable 1-0 away win at the Parramatta Eagles, with Jimmy Aschner scoring after just three minutes.

The loss for the Eagles sees them drop from

fourth to eighth, as a number of teams press for that top five spot.

The Leichhardt Tigers put behind them two home defeats to secure a 3-1 win over Ryde City, all the goals coming in the first period.

Steve Karavataki scored after 14 minutes for the Tigers, then Adam Peatey equalised just after the half-hour.

A goal by Eric Hristodoulou five minutes before the break made it 2-1 to Leichhardt, and Karavataki got his second

and his side's third to end the scoring.

Bankstown are in fifth after their 3-0 win over the Central Coast, scoring through Mendo

Lozevski, Stewart Van Bentum and Nabil Codmani, but Fairfield are next with a game in hand over both Leichhardt and Bankstown.

The Bulls had it easy over the Sutherland Sharks, winning 5-0 thanks to Hoenselaars, Iocca, Borg, Vrankovic and Pirrecca.



Leichhardt Tiger Eric Hristodoulou

NSW SOCCER FEDERATION SUPER LEAGUE

Sunday June 13

Central Coast v Parramatta Eagles

Pluim Park, 3:00pm

(rd 10 re-arranged match)

Eastern Suburbs v Ryde City

Wentworth Park, 3:00pm

(rd 16 re-arranged match)

Monday June 14

Macarthur Rams v Fairfield Bulls

Lynwood Park, 3:00pm

(rd 18 re-arranged match)

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Knights stay top in west after weekend draw with Sorrento

by Jason Marocchi

SORRENTO and the Western Knights shared the points in their Soccer West Coast Premier League top of the table clash on the weekend.

The Knights went ahead early when Trim Morgan fired a shot from close range, which deflected off a Sorrento defender and into the back of the net. Sorrento were awarded a penalty just before half-time, and Ross Greer made sure the Gulls went into the break on level terms, by converting the spot kick.

The second half was dominated by Sorrento, creating many opportunities which were not put away. Greer wasted the best of them when Sorrento were awarded their second penalty of the afternoon.

Greer missed the penalty to let the champions off the hook and two valuable points slip.

Sorrento coach Steve Neville said he was upset that his side didn't put its chances away.

"I'm disappointed that we didn't come away with the three points," he said.

"But we played really well and if we continue that form during the year we should be right up there at the end."

ECU Joondalup moved into



Troy Halpin: scored two for Stirling Lions

second spot with a 3-0 win over Ashfield-Bunbury.

Carl McDarby got two goals in the win which puts Joondalup just three points behind the leading Knights.

Joondalup meet the Knights on Saturday in another top of the table clash for the defending champions.

Perth continued their unbeaten run under new coach Graham Normanton with a 2-1 win over Floreat Athena at the Litis Stadium.

Rob Giorgi and Rob Peruzza scored for Perth, with Peter Coci getting a late consolation goal for Floreat.

Perth have now won their last two games and are undefeated in their last four, after a disastrous start to the season.

They travel to Fremantle Oval on Saturday to take on Fremantle City, who defeated Kingsway Olympic 2-0.

Joe Vaz got a goal in both halves to set up the victory.

Glory midfielder Troy Hal-

pin scored two goals in the Stirling Lion's 4-1 demolition of Cockburn City.

The Lions ran away with the game in the second half after the score was 1-1 at half time.

Zoran Mlinar and Toby Wright got the others for Stirling, while Gerry Christie scored for Cockburn.

And at Bayswater Oval, youngster Elton Holmes scored both goals in the Bayswater Panthers 2-0 victory over the Inglewood Falcons.

Hay and Miller share Glory award

by Jason Marocchi

SCOTT Miller and Danny Hay are Perth Glory's most glorious players for the 1998/99 season.

The tenacious wing back and Kiwi defender shared the Most Glorious Player award, Glory's trophy for its player of the year, at Perth's Hyatt Regency last Friday night.

Miller and Hay polled 60 votes each, to win the award from veteran goalkeeper Tony Franken (47 votes) and right back Robert Trajkovski (40 votes).

It is the second year in succession that Hay has won the award, but it could also be his last.

The big Kiwi is in Germany on trial with VFB Stuttgart and was not there to receive his trophy.

If all goes well, Hay might not be back for the purple and orange next season, but marking some of the world's best

strikers in the German Bundesliga.

Miller also made a bit of history by becoming the first West Australian to win the award.

He thanked his team-mates for an excellent year and said he hoped they could go all the way next season.

Miller was also rewarded for an outstanding season by being voted the Supporters Player of the Year.

The retiring Paul Strudwick won the Coach's Award for his professional commitment through out the year, despite running his own business full-time.

Strudwick was one of only two part-time players at the Glory this season, and had an excellent year in midfield before an injury-interrupted last month of the season.

Franken, who finished third behind Miller and Hay, was named Glory's best clubman.

State and NSL clubs to match it in charity cup competition

The New South Wales Soccer Federation has announced it's support of the David Carty and Peter Forsyth Memorial Cup, which will be held between August 15 and September 19.

The Cup has been estab-

lished to help raise funds to support the young family of Peter Forsyth, and police Legacy, after the tragic deaths of Constables David Carty (1997) and Peter Forsyth (1998).

The competition, in addition

to featuring some of the top clubs in the National Soccer League, will also feature three of the New South Wales Soccer Federation's Super League teams - Blacktown City Demons, Bonnyrigg White Eagles and Parramatta Eagles.

The first matches kick off at Marconi Stadium on Sunday August 15 between Canberra Cosmos and Blacktown City Demons, and Bonnyrigg White Eagles and Parramatta Eagles.

The following weekend Marconi and Sydney Olympic will face the winners of those two games at Marconi Stadium, while in Newcastle the Breakers will play Northern Spirit.

After Sydney United and Wollongong play at Edensor Park there will be a semi-final series, and on Sunday September 19 the final will be played and a third place play-off as well as a match between the NSW Police and the Victorian Police.

Inside Soccer at the Expo

INSIDE SOCCER will join the New South Wales Soccer Federation at the International Soccer Expo, which runs from June 11 to June 13.

The Expo itself features some of the best players in the world, as well as coaching clinics for the youngsters.

The New South Wales Soccer Federation's site though promises to be one of the main attractions, and will include; a walk-through exhibition featuring the history of the game in New South Wales, a site that showcases both the National League and New South Wales Super League teams, a video wall containing footage of the old, new, great games and great goals, a computer terminal connected to the Internet with all your favourite web-sites book-marked, a competition to win an autographed Socceroo shirt and much more.

The stand is open at the Soccer Expo at Homebush Bay from 12:00pm - 6:00pm Friday June 11 and from 9:00am - 6:00pm Saturday and Sunday June 12 and 13.



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ILLAWARRA CREDIT UNION PREMIER LEAGUE ROUND 11

Saturday 19 June

Kemblawarra v Cringila Lions

Albert Butler Memorial Park

Coniston Lions v Port Kembla

JJ Kelly Park

Northern United v Fernhill

Memorial Park, Corrimall

Bulli v Wollongong Olympic

Ball's Paddock, Bulli

Lyasghts v Wollongong White Eagles

Figtree Recreation Ground

Sunday 20 June

Shoalhaven City v Woonona

Ison Park, South Nowra

Royals scrape win at Queanbeyan

by Greg Welsh

THE Weston Creek Royals weathered a spirited Queanbeyan City Lions fightback to win 2-1 at Riverside Stadium on Sunday.

Queanbeyan is a much-improved side these days, and could easily have earned their first points of the 1999 season but for some errant finishing.

However, Weston Creek were guilty of the same offence for much of the game,

and the 0-0 half-time score certainly didn't reflect the amount of quality chances created by both sides.

Between them, Peter Hader and Steve Lazzari have scored 12 goals for Weston Creek this season.

But both strikers found Queanbeyan goalkeeper Daniel Vidovic in excellent form, with the Lions' keeper saving his defence a few early blushes.

At the other end, shots by

Lions forward David Geremia in the 12th and 16th minutes narrowly missed their target with Royals keeper Hassan Adhami well beaten.

Weston Creek's exciting left-midfielder Yoshi Sato, who had hit an upright in the first-half, provided the attacking spark for the Royals in the second period.

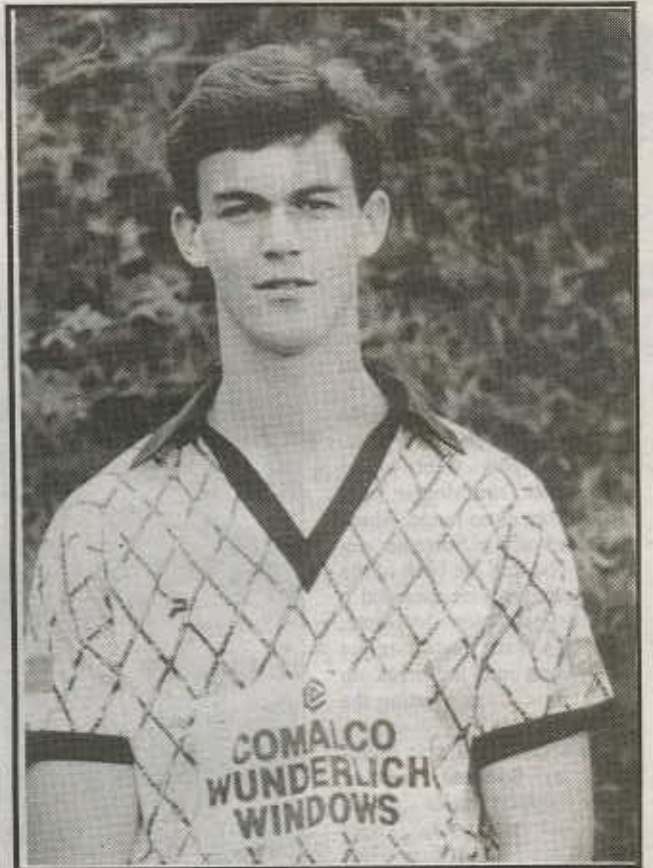
Sato broke down the left touchline in the 52nd minute before delivering an inch-perfect low cross to Lazzari in

front of goal.

Lazzari took one touch to control and another to place the ball past Vidovic for the first goal.

The Lions keeper gifted the Royals a second goal seven minutes later to sour an otherwise exceptional performance.

Sato's corner looked easy pickings until the slippery ball spilled from Vidovic's hands and plopped nicely at the feet of Weston Creek defender Tim Dale, who tapped over



Tim Dale: the Weston Creek defender took his chance

Carters guides Canberra City to draw

by Anya Whitelaw

THE ACT Academy of Sport and Canberra City played out a 2-2 draw with both teams performing well below their best at Warramanga on Sunday.

The game opened to some scrappy play from both teams, but ACTAS were the first to settle down and press the City defence.

City captain Carmel Carters came up with some desperate sliding tackles to keep ACTAS at bay, well backed up by keeper Michelle Tiffan.

With thirty minutes of the game gone, Kim Channing fired a shot past Tiffan from the top of the box to give ACTAS a 1-0 lead.

She scored again, five minutes later from a penalty kick after Jill Crocker was taken out in the box, taking her side 2-0 up.

City were given their chance three minutes out from half time, Amanda Butler giving them a penalty after pulling the shirt of a City attacker.

Nancy Foot stepped to the line to take the shot for City, and although ACTAS keeper

Amy Beattie got a full hand to the ball it bounced over her outstretched arm and into the net.

City levelled the scores right on half time, Kim Hopper somehow finding away past the opposition's defence with a powerful shot.

After the break City came out the more enthused of the two sides, though Claire Beech and Melissa de Ryck were unable to get in past the ACTAS defence to put their side ahead.

ACTAS tightened the screws to swing play back to them-

selves, Katrina Staniforth and Mary Pele working hard.

Despite the possession too many passes went astray for the players to make anything of them.

The final score of 2-2 was an improvement for City who lost 4-0 to ACTAS in the first round, but the standard of play was much lower from both sides in this game.

In other results Belconnen United remain undefeated after defeating Burns Brindabella 3-1, and Weston Creek downed Tuggeranong 3-2 in a close match.

the goal-line from less than a yard out.

But when Queanbeyan substitute John Giolubovic scored in the 82nd minute from a Danny Burt through-ball, the Lions went on the attack.

The Queanbeyan pressure nearly brought results, with Vlatko Tomeski's shot hitting the crossbar in the very last minute of the game, leaving Royals coach Jimmy Bland happy to come away with the three points.

"I think sometimes psychologically if you're playing bottom-of-the-league you expect to be three or four nil up by half-time," Bland said after the game.

"And that's probably what some of my players thought when they went out there.

"But it doesn't work that way, bottom-of-the-league will sometimes cause more problems than top-of-the-league sides do."

THE FUTURE

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Glass magic works for Juventus

by Nick Guoth

GUNGAHLIN Juventus made it five in a row when they defeated Canberra Olympic last Sunday at Majura Oval in very wet conditions.

The partnership of John Glass and George Cattanaich worked magic for Juventus hounding their opponents continuously and generating a bucketful of chances.

John was the star of the day with a hat-trick of his own and laying off the fourth for his striking partner.

The first Juventus goal of the game caught most of the spectators still trying to find a position in the stands.

It took only 27 seconds.

A free kick 30m out was taken by Craig Rankine and floated to the far post.

Glass jumped higher than all others to head the ball home.

Within less than ten minutes Olympic should have been on level terms.

Elli Salloum took the ball down the right and saw keeper Elias Oikarinen off his line, but the chip shot went wayward and only found the bushes behind the goal.

Olympic were causing their own problems with numerous loose passes, but fortunately for them Juventus were unable to capitalise.

Yet at the other end, a slip by Oscar Zamora as last man saw Arsenje Popovich win the ball and pass to his brother Njegosh who from close range finished with ease.

But this was a rare foray towards the Juventus goal.

On the half-hour mark Tony Rinaudo took matters into his own hands with a superb run down the right touchline.

His early cross found Glass behind the defence.

He had enough time to bring the ball down, beat a defender and slot the ball between keeper Angelo Konstantinou's legs.

Early in the second half Konstantinou set up a wonderful chance for Cattanaich when his mis-kick went straight to the forward.

Angelo made up for his error with a fine save.

Then ten minutes in Cattanaich sent a low cross in from the right.

Glass was first to the ball and from 5m out made no mistake to give him his hat-trick.

The chances just kept on coming, and although Olympic were able to get the ball to their forward line on occasions, the defence of Rinaudo,

Rankine and Zamora was water-tight.

Cattanaich was the main culprit for Juventus with two good chances, neither even forcing a save.

Luke Morgan also had a pair of shots as did Brad Smith, but either they went wide of were well saved by Konstantinou.

Then with 15 minutes left on the clock, Glass picked up a loose ball and laid it off to Cattanaich who finally scored from 15m out.

The game was now over as a contest, but Olympic had one more chance.

Takis Arvanitis sent a cross into the box and after it bounced, substitute Marcello Fernandez was first to the ball, but his header went wide.

Juventus coach Billy Willox was very happy with the result.

"We created heaps of chances and weren't intimidated. The boys up front did very well", he said.

A rather dejected Baz Giampaolo said that there were no excuses and that his team just weren't committed enough.

Baz stated: "we did not play simple soccer in the wet conditions."

The loss leaves Olympic precariously close to being left behind in the race for a final's place, whilst Juventus secured their fourth position and are now only two points behind the three co-leaders.

TWO early goals put Burns Club on the back foot at Greenway Oval and they could not recover conceding two more later to lose 4-0 against Canberra Deakin.

In the fifth minute, Andy Rakic took the ball into the box from the left side and finished well.

Then five minutes later a counter-attack saw the ball go to Michael Barac who passed to Paul Ivanic.

He took on his defender and shot true from 15m out.

With ten minutes left in the half, a deep cross from the left by David Milin went to the far post.

Daniel Jukic was on hand to volley the ball back into the middle and Ben Deighan complemented his team-mate by volleying home from close range.

A quarter of an hour into the second half a move along the right saw Barac cross into the box. Ivanic ran onto it and finished well.

Deakin coach Bernie Lustica stated: "the boys played well.

We scored two goals early. It was a solid team performance."

Lustica was very happy with the play of Paul Ivanic and Daniel Jukic.

THE Capital City Suns bounced back from their thrashing last weekend to do the same to the University of Canberra at O'Connor Oval.

The scoreline was 6-1, but it could have been more if not for wayward finishing.

Luka Udjer and Pat Phommaseisy scored twice each whilst Shane Lyons and Tony Lemezina rounded out the scoring.

For University, a cross was met well in the box by Dominic Bartone adding to his tally of goals for the season.

Suns' coach Bill Dojcinowski was pleased with his team especially after the result the Sunday before.

He said: "we scored good goals, but it could have been ten" such was the domination of his side.

AT HAWKER Oval we saw the top of the table clash and the last of the undefeated teams losing that mantle as Monaro beat Belconnen United 3-2.

In a very entertaining game, Monaro took an early lead and then allowing Belconnen to get back into the game finished it off.

Monaro struck early when a Belconnen corner kick was cleared to Danny Serena.

The counter-attack was too fast for Bels and Serena's cross was greeted by a diving header from Joe Campagna.

Then a defensive error and pressure from Monaro saw Laz Simeonov win the ball and pass it to Danny Macor.

Macor scored easily, but Belconnen were rueing not having cleared the ball when they had the chance.

To their credit, Bels came back into the game five minutes later.

A corner kick was headed on at the near post by Craig Unwin.

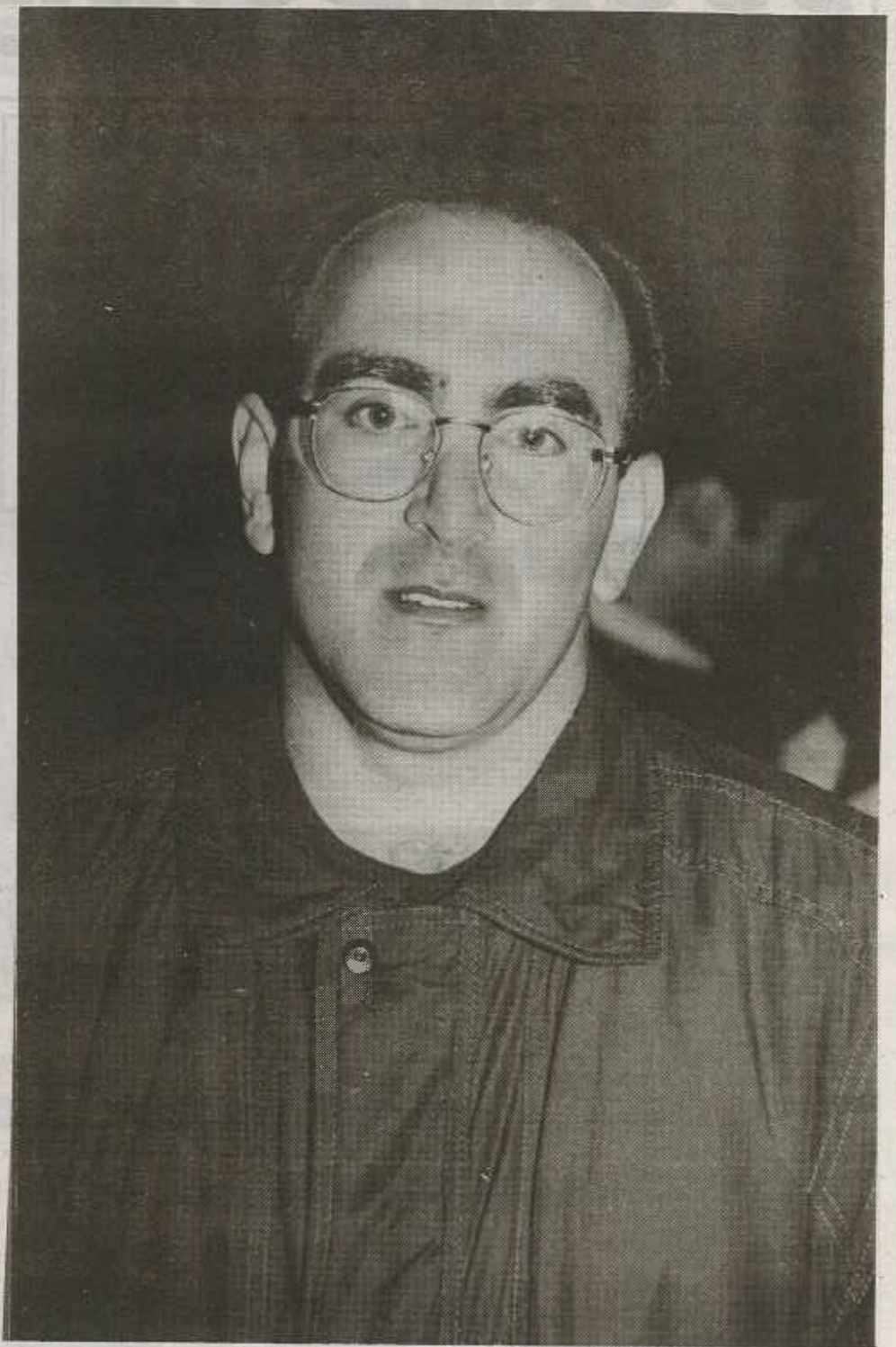
The ball was cleared off the line but it fell to Marko Perinovic who put the rebound in.

Two-one at the break and both sides were still looking for the win.

It was Belconnen who struck first.

A Luke Larfield cross from the right to the far post was cleared by the defence but only as far as Unwin.

He passed to Lee Pietrukow-



Canberra Deakin coach Bernie Lustica

ski who pushed the ball to Perinovic to finish with a delicate chip.

The winning goal came ten minutes later.

A goal-mouth scramble which involved a two-to-one

majority of Belconnen players saw the ball not cleared.

It fell to Campagna who netted from close range to double his tally for the day.

Although on the losing side, Bels coach Lino Fiorese was

not too despondent.

"I thought we played really well and created good goal scoring chances, but we can't provide easy opportunities at the other end for a class side like Monaro," he said.

MONDAY NIGHT SOCCER

VICTORIAN PREMIER LEAGUE
Come join the excitement at Green Gully's home matches, and enjoy a meal, the hospitality and the pokies at the clubhouse Tabaret.
Green Gully Reserve, Green Gully

GREEN GULLY CAVALIERS
ALTONA EAST

Monday June 14
Kick Off: 6.15pm reserves, 8.15pm seniors

SCOREBOARD

BROUGHT TO YOU BY

 **RAM SPORTS**

NSW SUPER LEAGUE

FIRST GRADE	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Blacktown City	19	14	2	3	43	15	44
Bonnyrigg	19	13	1	5	57	30	40
Macarthur Rams	18	11	1	6	31	20	34
Leichhardt Tigers	19	10	2	7	36	29	32
Bankstown City	19	10	1	8	38	29	31
Fairfield Bulls	18	9	4	5	36	29	31
Canterbury	19	9	4	6	30	31	31
Parramatta Eagles	18	9	2	7	38	22	29
Ryde City	18	4	4	10	24	33	16
Sutherland Sharks	19	3	3	13	17	51	12
Central Coast	18	2	4	12	14	42	10
Eastern Suburbs	18	2	2	14	22	55	8

NSW SUPER LEAGUE

UNDER 21	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Parramatta Eagles	18	13	3	2	40	20	42
Bonnyrigg	19	12	1	6	40	25	37
Macarthur Rams	18	10	3	5	42	22	33
Fairfield Bulls	18	9	4	5	34	35	31
Blacktown City	19	9	2	8	41	35	29
Eastern Suburbs	18	8	1	9	28	32	25
Ryde City	18	6	4	8	31	27	22
Leichhardt Tigers	19	7	1	11	37	44	22
Central Coast	18	6	4	8	24	32	22
Canterbury Marrickville	19	6	3	10	24	33	21
Bankstown	19	5	3	11	27	39	18
Sutherland Sharks	19	4	3	12	20	44	15

NSW SUPER LEAGUE

UNDER 18	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Blacktown City	19	14	3	2	39	16	45
Parramatta Eagles	18	13	1	4	59	17	40
Macarthur Rams	18	12	1	5	34	24	37
Canterbury	19	9	5	5	35	27	32
Leichhardt Tigers	19	8	5	6	22	18	29
Central Coast	18	8	2	8	29	27	26
Eastern Suburbs	18	8	2	8	30	29	26
Bankstown City Lions	19	8	1	10	31	40	25
Sutherland Sharks	19	5	3	11	20	35	18
Ryde City	18	4	5	9	14	23	17
Bonnyrigg	19	2	5	12	12	34	11
Fairfield Bulls	18	2	3	13	13	48	9

VICTORIAN PREMIER LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Pt. Melbourne Sharks	17	12	4	1	43	19	40
Preston Lions	17	11	2	4	37	22	35
Green Gully Cavaliers	17	9	6	2	35	18	33
Fawkner Blues	17	9	3	5	30	20	30
Bentleigh Greens	17	6	5	6	31	25	23
Bulleen Inter Kings	16	6	5	5	22	18	23
Melbourne Raiders	17	6	5	6	23	27	23
Altona Magic	17	6	3	8	22	33	21
Altona East Phoenix	17	5	5	7	17	23	20
South Dandenong	17	4	5	8	28	31	17
St. Albans Saints	17	5	2	10	19	27	17
Westvale	16	3	6	7	20	35	15
Spring. White Eagles	16	3	4	9	19	29	13
Sunshine Georgies	16	3	3	10	17	36	12

SCHOOLS

BILL TURNER CUP

Rd 1:	Sydney Grammar 2	Sydney Grammar 0,
Delroy 1-5	St Johns Dubbo 1-4,	
Lithgow 3	La Salle Lithgow 1,	
Corrimal 3	Bulli 0	
Murray 4	James Fallon 0	
Rd 2:		
Hunters Hill 4	Balgowlah Boys 0	
Crestwood 5	Castle Hill 0	
Westfields 8	All Saints Liverpool 1,	
Bossley Park 7	Miller 0	
Chatham 6	Taree 0	
Wauchope 7	Westport 0,	
Singleton 3	Kurri Kurri 0	
Irrawang 4	San Clemente 1	
Lake Macquarie 1	Cardiff 0,	
Orange 3	Bathurst 0	
Lithgow 3	Portland Central 0,	
Cootamundra 2	June 1	
St Pauls Walla Walla 2	Coolamon Central 1,	
Bomaderry 1-4	Vincentia 1-3	
Figtree 3	Dapto 0	
St Joes Albion Park 1	Warrarong 0	
Notre Shepparton 1	Wodonga Catholic 0,	
Albury 4	Griffith Catholic 1,	
St Francis Leeton 2	Balranald Central 1.	
Deniliquin 2		

NSW CHS BOYS at Glenwood:

Day 1: Pool A:		
Western 1	Riverina 0	
Sydney West 1	Sydney East 1	
Nth Coast 1	Western 0	
Sydney East 2	Riverina 0	
Sydney West 4	Nth Coast 0	
Pool B:		
Sydney Sth West 2	Sydney Nth 0	
Hunter 2	Sth Coast 2	
Sydney Sth West 3	Nth West 0	
Hunter 1	Sydney Nth 1	
Sth Coast 4	Nth West 0	
Day 2: Pool A:		
Sydney East 1	Nth Coast 0	
Sydney West 3	Riverina 2	
Sydney East 2	Western 0	
Riverina 1	Nth Coast 0	
Pool B:		
Hunter 8	Nth West 1	
Sth Coast 0	Sydney Sth West 0,	
Sydney Nth 2	Nth West 1	
Hunter 3	Sydney Sth West 3.	
Semi-f:		
Sydney West 2	Hunter 1	
Sydney East 0	Sydney Sth West 0 (4-1 pen).	
Playoffs:		
Nth Coast 5	Nth West 1	
Sydney Nth 5	Western 0	
Sth Coast 1	Riverina 0	
Final:		
Sydney West 2	Sydney East 0	
Final placings: Sydney West, Sydney		
East, Sydney SW, Hunter, Sth Coast, Riverina,		
Sydney Nth, Western, Nth Coast, Nth West.		

NSW CHS REPRESENTATIVE SQUADS:
First: J Van Stratten (SN) S Lockhart (Keira) M Byrnes (SN) M Rossier (Westf) J Kemp (Mere) S Dimitrievski (Keira) N Arrate (Westf) J Jackett (Colo) W Pryce (Lamb) N McLaughlin (Whalan) I Arrate (Westf) A Hartshorn (Springw) C Mansley (Wbridge) D Severino (Fvale) T Martin (Westf) D Giorgalopoulos. Coach: C Marr (Wauchope). Mgr: P Ivers (Taree). Second: S Whalan (Figt) M Davidovic (Murr) M Kane (Lisa) D Cabrera (Boss Pk) P Bojic (L. Illaw) D Nicolaou (Rooty H) B Santalab (Keira) J Fotiadis (Epp B) S Bozanaski (Birr B) D Aliffi (Mulw) D Ross (Lamb) A Griffith (Albury) E Anabalon (Westf) O Dincer (J J Cahill) D McAllister (SN) B Xerri (Merry). Coach (D Storey (Morisset). Mgr: B Fotheringham (Illawarra SC).

METROPOLITAN CC:
Rd 6 A:

Marcellin Randwick 2 Marist Nth Shore 1
St Leos Wahroonga 1 CBHS Lewisham 1
De La Salle Ashfield 5 Marist Pagewood 0,
Marist Kogarah 4 La Salle Bankstown 0
B:
Marist Nth Shore 2 Marcellin Randwick 1,
CBHS Lewisham 2 St Leos Wahroonga 1,
De La Salle Ashfield 2 Marist Pagewood 0,
Marist Kogarah 6 La Salle Bankstown 0
U-15:
Marist Nth Shore 1 Marcellin Randwick 1,
CBHS Lewisham 6 St Leos Wahroonga 0,
Marist Pagewood 3 De La Salle Ashfield
0, La Salle Bankstown 4
Marist Kogarah 1

A.C.T.

U-13:
Marist Nth Shore 2 Marcellin Randwick 1,
CBHS Lewisham 2 St Leos Wahroonga 0
La Salle Bankstown 1 Marist Kogarah 1
De la Salle Ashfield 5 Marist Pagewood 0.

COMMONWEALTH BANK CUP Rd 3:

Granville Boys 2	Greystanes 1
Wyndham 2	Girraween 0,
Colo 2	Hawkesbury 0
Plumpton 2	Kingswood 1,
Kingsgrove North 4	South Sydney 0,
Jannali 1	JJ Cahill 0
Menai 3	Canterbury Boys 2,
Leichhardt 5	Blakehurst 4
Port Hacking 6	Vauluse 0
James Cook 3	Kirrawee 2
Caringbah 2	Wooloware 0
Warilla 2	Dapto 1
SHIELD Rd 3:	
Endeavour 9	Penshurst 0
Cronulla 3	Kingsgrove 0,
Wooloware 2	Kirrawee 1
Port Hacking 2	Menai 1
Baulkham Hills 1	James Ruse 0
Belmont 2	Kotara 0
Hunter Sports 5	Newcastle 1
West Wallsend 2	Jesmond 1
Dungog 2	Buladelah 0,
Francis Greenway 2	Scone 1.
Premier League Division 1:	
1st Grade:	
Belconnen United 2	Monaro 3
Burns Club 0	Canberra Deakin 4
Queanbeyan City 1	Weston Creek 2
Gungahlin Juventus 4	Canberra Olympic 1
Capital City Suns 6	Uni of Canberra 1
U23s:	
Belconnen United 2	Monaro 2
Burns Club 1	Canberra Deakin 5
Queanbeyan City 2	Weston Creek 6
Gungahlin Juventus 1	Canberra Olympic 3
Capital City Suns 0	Uni of Canberra 4
U19 Grade:	
Belconnen United 7	Monaro 0
Burns Club 1	Canberra Deakin 3
Queanbeyan City 1	Weston Creek 5
Gungahlin Juventus 4	Canberra Olympic 0
Capital City Suns 4	Uni of Canberra 3

Premier League Division 2:

1st Grade:	
White Eagles 0	ADFA 1
Sabres FC 3	ANU 3

NEW SOUTH WALES

Tuggeranong 4	Belwest 0
Cooma 0	O'Connor Knights 1
Res Grade:	
White Eagles 6	ADFA 2
Sabres FC 2	ANU 1
Tuggeranong 2	Belwest 0
Cooma 2	O'Connor Knights 6

State League:
Division 1:
Valley Blues 7
Ginninderra 4
Southern Spirit 1,
Uni of Canberra 3,

Burns Club 2
Monaro 1
Division 2:
Valley Blues 1
Ginninderra 1
Belconnen 1
Burns 1
Division 3:
Uni of Canberra 0
Division 4:
ANU 2
Uni of Canberra 2
Uni of Canberra 2
Masters:
ANU 2
Canberra Deakin 19
Belconnen 2
White Eagles 4

NSW FEDERATION:

SUPER LEAGUE: FIRST GRADE:

Central Coast 0 Sutherland Sharks 0,

Blacktown City 3 Bonnyrigg 1

J Bennett 24/68m B Dragas 36

D Brown 45m

Bankstown City 3 Central Coast 0

M Lozevski 12m S Van Bentum 22m

N Codman 48m

Fairfield Bulls 5 Sutherland Sharks 0

M Hoenselaars 36m

D Iocca 46m

M Borg 47m

M Vrankovic 53m

R Pirrecca 73m

Macarthur Rams 1 Parramatta Eagles 0

J Aschner 3m

Canterbury 3 Eastern Suburbs 1

N Bosevski 25/73m N Imaya 45m

G Kategianis 80m

Leichhardt Tigers 3 Ryde City 1

S Karavatakis 14/43m A Peatey 32m

E Hristodoulou 40m

UNDER 21:

Bonnyrigg 1 Blacktown City 1,

Bankstown City 1 Central Coast 0,

Fairfield Bulls 2 Sutherland Sharks 2,

Parramatta Eagles 2 Macarthur Rams 1,

Canterbury 3 Eastern Suburbs 0,

Ryde City 7 Leichhardt Tigers 0.

UNDER 18:

Blacktown City 2 Bonnyrigg WE 1,

Bankstown City 3 Central Coast 2,

Fairfield Bulls 2 Sutherland Sharks 1,

Macarthur Rams 2 Parramatta Eagles 1,

Eastern Suburbs 4 Canterbury 2

Ryde City 1 Leichhardt Tigers 0.

DIVISION ONE:

FIRST GRADE:

Penrith Panthers 2 Illawarra Lions 0,

Bathurst 75 2 Manly Warringah 1

Dulwich Hill 0 Penrith Panthers 0,

Rockdale City Suns 3 St George 0

Stammore Hawks 2 Auburn United 1

Hurstville City 4 Illawarra Lions 0.

UNDER 21:

Moorebank Sports 1 AC United 1

 Penrith Panthers 5 | Illawarra Lions 0, || Manly Warringah 2 | Bathurst 75 1 |
Penrith Panthers 1	Dulwich Hill 0
Rockdale City Suns 2	St George 1
Stammore Hawks 2	Auburn United 1,
Hurstville City 2	Illawarra Lions 2.
UNDER 18:	
Moorebank Sports 1	AC United 0
Bathurst 75 0	Manly 0
Penrith Panthers 3	Dulwich Hill 0
Rockdale City Suns 1	St George 1
Auburn United 2	Stammore Hawks 2
Hurstville City 6	Illawarra Lions 3.

DIVISION TWO:

FIRST GRADE:

Fraser Park 2 Hajduk Wanderers 1,

University of NSW 2 Sydney University 2,

Hajduk Wanderers 1 Hurstville ZSC 0,

Sydney District 1 Greystanes 1

University of NSW 2 Hills United 2

Arnccliffe Scots 1 Sydney University 1

Mt Pritchard 2 Mt Druiit Town 1

Fraser Park 5 Belmore Hercules 0.

UNDER 21:

Hajduk Wanderers 3 Fraser Park 0

University of NSW 3 Sydney University 1,

Hurstville ZSC 1 Hajduk Wanderers 1

Greystanes 3 Sydney District 0,

Sydney University 4 University of NSW 0,

Mt Druiit Town 3 Arnccliffe Scots 0

Fraser Park 3 Mt Pritchard 2

Belmore Hercules 1.

UNDER 18:

Hajduk Wanderers 5 Fraser Park 0,

University of NSW 2 Sydney University 0,

Hajduk Wanderers 3 Hurstville ZSC 1,

Sydney District 1 Greystanes 0

Hills United 6 University of NSW 0,

Arnccliffe Scots 1 Sydney University 0,

Mt Druiit Town 2 Mt Pritchard 1

Belmore Hercules 2 Fraser Park 0.

DIVISION THREE:

FIRST GRADE:

Liverpool City 2 Maroubra United 1,

Colo Colo 4 Gladesville United 1,

Prospect United 1 Camden Tigers 1,

White City 2 Parramatta City 1

The Wanderers 3 Trasandinos 2

Hakoah 2 Western Lions 2.

SECOND GRADE:

Liverpool City 4 Maroubra United 2,

Colo Colo 1 Gladesville United 0,

Camden Tigers 2 Prospect United 1,

White City 4 Parramatta City 2,

Trasandinos 3 The Wanderers 2,

Hakoah 1 Western Lions 0.

DIVISION FOUR:

FIRST GRADE:

Hawkesbury City 2 CSI Schofields 1

Prairiewood United 1 Balmain 0

United Eagles 7 CSI Schofields 0,

Hawkesbury City 1 Eastern Pioneers 0,

Marrickville 1 Holy Cross Ryde 1,

Sydney Crescent 0 Granville Green 0,

Springwood 2 Nepean District 2,

White Valley 0 Auburn Star 0

SCOREBOARD

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



RAM SPORTS

VICTORIAN STATE LEAGUE

DIVISION 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Lalor United	11	9	1	1	29	9	28
Westgate	11	7	2	2	24	14	23
Oakleigh	11	7	2	2	17	8	23
Heidelberg United	11	6	3	2	27	19	21
Richmond	11	4	3	4	16	20	15
Doncaster Rovers	11	3	5	3	24	17	14
Western Suburbs	11	4	2	5	16	15	14
Nth Geelong Warriors	11	3	5	3	13	12	14
Yarraville Glory	11	4	2	5	15	17	14
Kingston City	11	4	2	5	14	22	14
Northcote City	11	3	2	6	22	23	11
Melbourne City	11	3	1	7	16	27	10
Springvale City	11	2	3	6	6	19	9
Werribee City	11	0	3	8	11	28	3

VICTORIAN STATE LEAGUE

DIVISION 2	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Essendon	11	7	4	0	28	5	25
Geelong	11	6	3	2	24	19	21
Frankston Pines	10	5	4	1	30	13	19
Cranbourne Comets	11	5	4	2	21	16	19
East Richmond	11	5	4	2	19	17	19
Knox City	11	5	2	4	19	13	17
Altona City	11	5	2	4	10	15	17
Thomastown / Regent	11	3	4	4	21	20	13
Old Scotch Waverley	10	4	1	5	11	17	13
Ringwood City	11	3	4	4	17	24	13
Frankston Strikers	11	2	4	5	14	17	10
Croydon City Arrows	11	2	4	5	13	17	10
Satellite City Rovers	11	2	2	7	8	24	8
Diamond Valley Utd	11	0	2	9	11	29	2

QUEENSLAND PREMIER LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rosedale Rovers	16	11	0	5	39	24	33
Brisbane City	16	8	3	5	31	20	27
Ipswich Knights	16	8	3	5	26	21	27
Brisbane Lions	16	8	2	6	35	29	26
Taringa Rovers	15	7	4	4	24	14	25
Gold Coast	15	6	7	2	29	22	25
Bundaberg Waves	16	5	4	7	24	25	19
Wynnum	15	4	2	9	22	34	14
Mount Gravatt	15	3	4	8	21	37	13
Toowoomba United	16	1	5	10	11	36	8

WEST AUSTRALIA SOCCER WEST COAST PREMIER LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Western Knights	9	7	1	1	30	8	22
ECU Joondalup	9	6	1	2	25	8	19
Fremantle City	9	6	1	2	22	16	19
Sorrento	9	5	2	2	31	13	17
Bayswater City	9	5	2	2	17	46	17
Floreat Athena	9	3	2	4	23	21	11
Perth SC	9	3	2	4	10	14	11
Inglewood Falcons	9	3	2	4	12	17	11
Ashfield Bunbury	9	3	1	5	12	20	10
Stirling Lions	9	3	0	6	15	26	9
Cockburn City	9	1	1	7	10	29	4
Kingsway Olympic	9	1	1	7	5	30	4

Bankstown Assoc 3
Stanmore Hawks 1
Penrith Panthers 2
AC United 3
Blacktown Assoc 2
Bonnyrigg WE 5
St George 2
Penrith Panthers 3
UNDER 16:
Bankstown Assoc 5
Stanmore Hawks 1
Penrith Panthers 3
AC United 1
Blacktown Assoc 4
Fairfield Bulls 2
George 4
Penrith Panthers 4
DIVISION TWO:
UNDER 13:
Nepean Assoc 8
Macquarie Sports 0
Ku-Ring-Gai Assoc 6
Mt Pritchard 3
Camden Tigers 1
Moorebank Sports 1
UNDER 14:
Nepean Assoc 5
Macquarie Sports 2
Ku-Ring-Gai Assoc 1
Mt Pritchard 4
Camden Tigers 0
Hawkesbury City 3
UNDER 15:
Parramatta City 3
Macquarie Sports 6
Ku-Ring-Gai Assoc 3
Hajduk Wanderers 3
Camden Tigers 0
Moorebank Sports 3
UNDER 16:
Nepean Assoc 5
Macquarie Sports 6
Ku-Ring-Gai Assoc 4
Hajduk Wanderers 1
Camden Tigers 2
Hawkesbury City 1

Canterbury M'ville 1,
Illawarra Lions 1,
Ryde City 0
Rockdale City 1,
Hills United 0
Fairfield Bulls 2
Canterbury Assoc 1
Canterbury Assoc 0.
Canterbury M'ville 2,
Illawarra Lions 0,
Ryde City 1
Rockdale City 0,
Hills United 0,
Bonnyrigg WE 0, St
Canterbury Assoc 0,
Canterbury Assoc 1.

Wanderers 3
Equador 2
Reserve grade:
Eldorado 6
Roselands 3
Pharoahs 5
O-35: Rd 9:
Dulwich Hill 3
Kingsgrove Apollo 2
Concordia 1
Leichhardt 10
Amateur Cup:
Eldorado beat Enfield Rovers pen 6-5.

Roselands 1
Pharoahs 2
Dobroyd 1
Wanderers 2
Equador 3

QUEENSLAND

QSF PREMIER LEAGUE
Mout Gravatt v Taringa Rovers w/o
Gold Coast 3
Ipswich Knights 1
Brisbane City 4
Toowoomba United 0
Brisbane Lions 1
Bundaberg Waves 1
Wynnum 0
Rosedale Rovers 3

VICTORIA

GIPPSLAND SOCCER LEAGUE
DIVISION 1: First Grade
Churchill 1
Sale 5
Tyers 4
Warragul 3
Olympians 0
DIVISION 1: Second Grade
Churchill 1
Sale 3
Tyers 0
Warragul 2
Olympians 0
DIVISION 2
Traralgon City 3
Trafalgar 1
Drouin 0
Newborough 1
Monash 2
Moe 1
Fortuna 2
Drouin 2
Newborough 2
Monash 3
Moe 1
Fortuna 8
Fortuna 5
Falcons 1

PREMIER LEAGUE:
Firsts: Rd 17:
Pt. Melbourne 2
Preston Lions 3
Fawkner Blues 3
Altona East Phoenix 0
Bentleigh Greens 1
Altona Magic 1
St. Albans Saints 2,
South Dandenong 2,
Melbourne Raiders 0,
Green Gully 6

CRAZY JOHN'S STATE LEAGUE 1:
Firsts: Rd 11:
Nth Geelong 1
Oakleigh 2
Richmond 1
Yarraville Glory 0
Werribee City 2
Westgate 3
Doncaster Rovers 2
Lalor United 2
Melbourne City 0,
Northcote City 0,
Springvale City 1,
Heidelberg United 2,
Western Suburbs 2,
Kingston City 2

CRAZY JOHN'S STATE LEAGUE 2:
Firsts: Rd 11:
Town / Regent 2
Knox City 0
Ringwood City 1
Cranbourne Comets 2
Diamond Valley 0
Altona City 0
Frankston Strikers 2
Frankston Pines 4,
Essendon 3
East Richmond 1,
Satellite City Rov's 1,
Croydon Arrows 2,
Geelong 3
Old Scotch 0

CRAZY JOHN'S STATE LEAGUE 3:
Firsts: Rd 11:
Bell Park 0
Broadmeadows City 2
Fitzroy City 1
Keilor Park 1
South Wantima 1
Williamstown 1
South Springvale 5
Mooroolbark 0
North Coburg 4,
Banyule City 1
Laverton Park 4
Stonnington City 2,
Moreland City 3,
Pascoe Vale 1

CRAZY JOHN'S STATE LEAGUE 4:
Firsts: Rd 11:
Geelong Rangers 0
Keysborough 1
Corio 0
Langwarrin 0
Chelsea 1
Croxtan Park 4



Ned Zelc: lining up for the Socceroos against the FIFA World XI on Saturday night at Homebush Bay

Melton 2
Nunawading City 1
Sandringham City 4
Seaford United 3
Sunbury United 0,
Clifton Hill United 2,
Lyndale United 2,
Lalor 0

PROV'NAL LEAGUE DIV. 1:
Firsts: Rd 9:
Endeavour United 3
Riversdale 0
Brunswick City 2
Dandenong 2
Templestowe Eagles 4
Nth Sunshine Eagles 2
Morwell Pegasus 1,
Monbulk 2
South Caulfield 0,
Sydenham Park 4,
Mitcham United 0,
Springvale Condors 0

PROV'NAL LEAGUE DIV. 2 NW:
Firsts: Rd 9:
Keon Park 0
Uni. Of Melbourne 6
Mill Park 0
Glenroy 4
Broadmeadows 2
Hoppers Crossing 9
South Yarra 3
Meadow Park 0
Elwood City 2
Ballarat 1
Somerton City 1,
Melbourne Uni 0

PROV'NAL LEAGUE DIV. 2 SE:
Firsts: Rd 9:
Noble Park 0
Ashburton 2
Dandenong Inter 1
Clayton 2
Brandon Park 2
Norrough/Yallourn 4
Doveton 2
Heatherton United 2,
Monash University 0,
Waverleys 3
Dingley City 4
Braeside United 1

PROV'NAL LEAGUE DIV. 3 NW:
Firsts: Rd 9:
Keilor United 5
North Glenroy 4
Darebin United 6
Brimbank 2
Watsonia Heights 0
West Preston 0
La Trobe University 0,
Brimbank City 2,
Northern United 1,
Flemington Falcons 1,
Whittlesea United 1,
North Reservoir 0

PROV'NAL LEAGUE DIV. 3 SE:
Firsts: Rd 9:
Thornbury United 2
Old Camberwell 2
Parkmore 3
North Caulfield 6
Collingwood City 6
Rowville Eagles 2
Noble Park United 5,
Endeavour Hills 1,
Ivanhoe United 3,
Beaumaris 1
Newport United 0,
Moreland United 4

WOMENS LEAGUE 18'S:
Firsts: Rd 6:
Langwarrin 1
Ringwood City A 6,

WOMENS LEAGUE 14'S:
Firsts: Rd 6:
Eltham North 0
Ashburton 6
Fawkner Blues 3,
Sandringham City 2

WOMENS LEAGUE DIVISION 1:
Firsts: Rd 7:
Seaford United 3
Yarraville Glory Bye
Waverley Taipans Bye
Ballarat Strikers 0,

WOMENS LEAGUE 16'S N/W:
Firsts: Rd 6:
Brunswick Zebras 7
Eltham North 3
Reservoir United 6
Ballarat City 0
Fawkner Blues 2,
Green Gully 4

WOMENS LEAGUE DIVISION 3 NTH-WEST:
Firsts: Rd 7:
Melton 7
La Trobe University Bye
North Reservoir 4
Diamond Valley 0
Deakin University 0,
Pascoe Vale 0,
Fairfield Falcons B 1

WOMENS LEAGUE DIVISION 2 NTH-

WEST:
Firsts: Rd 7:
Fairfield A 11
Calder Strikers 0
Eltham North 1
Essendon B 0
Brunswick City 1,
Ballarat City 2

WEST AUSTRALIA

SOCCER WEST COAST
PREMIER LEAGUE
First Grade
Ashfield-Bunbury 0
Bayswater City 2
Stirling Lions 4
Floreat Athena 1
Kingsway Olympic 0
Sorrento 1
Joondalup 3
Inglewood falcons 0
Cockburn City 1
Perth SC 2
Fremantle City 2
Western Knights 1

Reserve Grade
Ashfield-Bunbury 2
Bayswater City 1
Stirling Lions 1
Floreat Athena 0
Kingsway Olympic 0
Sorrento 4
Joondalup 1
Inglewood falcons 2
Cockburn City 0
Perth SC 5
Fremantle City 2
Western Knights 0

Under 18s
Ashfield-Bunbury 1
Bayswater City 2
Stirling Lions 0
Floreat Athena 2
Kingsway Olympic 1
Sorrento 5
Joondalup 1
Inglewood falcons 1
Cockburn City 7
Perth SC 3
Fremantle City 2
Western Knights 1

RAM SPORTS

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The Back Page

STOP PRESS

England on brink of Euro exit

By Stephen Wade

THE Czech Republic, Norway, Sweden and Italy seem certain of qualifying for the Euro 2000 soccer finals.

But World Cup champion France and England - the home of Champions Cup winner Manchester United - are threatened with going out.

The Czechs - with a 10-point lead over Scotland in Group 9 - could be the first team to qualify with a victory Wednesday at home over Scotland.

Norway and Sweden are off this week amid a dozen qualifiers. Italy plays Wednesday at Switzerland with a chance to pad its lead to nine points in Group 1.

France, upset 3-2 by Russia on Saturday in Saint-Denis, has slipped to No.3 in Group 4 with 11 points behind Ukraine (14) and Iceland (12).

Valerey Karpin got the winner in the final three minutes with two more from Alexander Popov.

Emmanuel Petit and Sylvain Wiltord scored for France.

France seems sure of three points in its Wednesday match in Andorra with Iceland at Russia and Ukraine at Armenia.

England's scoreless draw Saturday against Sweden could prove fatal, a match that had Paul Scholes sent off for the last 40 minutes.

The English - in third place in Group 5

with eight points to nine for Poland and 13 for Sweden - must win Wednesday in Bulgaria. Poland plays at Luxembourg.

Turkey and Norway picked up key victories Saturday. Turkey kept pace with Germany in Group 3 with a 4-2 win in Finland on two goals each from Hakan Sukur and Tayfur Havutcu. Norway won 2-1 in Albania on a late winner by Tore Andre Flo.

On Sunday Israel destroyed Austria 5-0 in Group 6. The win moved Israel even on points with Austria (10), two behind leader Spain. Israel and Spain have each played five and Austria six.

And England coach Kevin Keegan responded to his injury problems ahead of Wednesday's crucial European Championship qualifier in Bulgaria by calling up Ipswich midfielder Kieron Dyer and Charlton defender Danny Mills from the Under-21 squad.

Although 20-year-old Dyer has appeared in the England squad before, it represented Mills's



Paul Scholes on his way for an early shower

first call-up to the senior set-up.

The 22-year-old has played six times for the Under-21s, most recently on the left-side of

the back-three, but appears for his club in a full-back role and could be considered as extra cover behind Michael Gray in case first-choice Graeme Le Saux fails to recover from a virus.

Dyer, who like Mills is a target for Leeds, has been a regular in the Under-21 side for some time, having made 10 appearances with his only goal having come in Rieti just before the senior team drew with Italy to qualify for last year's World Cup.

West Ham midfielder Lampard was not able to be considered by Keegan as a booking picked up in Friday's win against the Swedish Under-21 side left him suspended.

Keegan is without the suspended Paul Scholes, sent off in Saturday's 0-0 draw with Sweden, his Manchester United team-mate David Beckham and Arsenal defender Martin Keown, who both have hamstring injuries.

COTEN A ZEBRA

ADELAIDE City have appointed Perth Wildcats general manager Ned Coten as chief executive.

Coten will move into the appointment month after giving the Wildcats six weeks notice. A former Wildcats player, Coten was appointed marketing manager of Perth in 1994 and had been the general manager since March 1997.

Fabio back in Serie A

AS Roma president Franco Sensi announced on Sunday that he was sacking Zdenek Zeman as coach and hiring former AC Milan boss Fabio Capello as his replacement.

Sensi emerged from a business meeting telling reporters: "Two statements will be issued today, one for the dismissal of Zeman, the other for the recruitment of Capello."

Zeman fell out of favour

after a mid-season dip in performance which cost Roma its shot at the championship and a place in the European Champions League.

It did however win a UEFA Cup place.

Sensi said that Zeman's departure "was nobody's fault, but a question of facts, and the changing times. I will be very friendly with him."

Capello won four league titles in five years with Milan before leaving in 1996 for a

season in Spain, where he guided Real Madrid the championship in 1997.

A return to Milan in 1997-98 brought only failure and he was replaced last season by Alberto Zaccheroni, who won the championship last month.

Capello, who was still on the Milan pay-roll - having a year of his two-year contract to see out - spent last season as a commentator on Italian state television.

Mandela to front South African bid

South African President Nelson Mandela will front his country's campaign to snatch the 2006 football World Cup from host favourites England and Germany, Britain's The Sunday Times has reported.

After he officially steps down as president next week, Mandela, a keen football supporter, will strive to convince the 24-strong executive of football's ruling body, FIFA, that South Africa should host the championship, according to the newspaper.

Danny Jordaan, who is spearheading South Africa's bid and who is a former MP in Mandela's government, said the president's influence will

come into play at "key strategic stages," said the article.

Mandela's skills as a diplomat will be put to the test from the outset as he must unite Africa's four FIFA representatives behind his country's bid to bring the huge sporting event to the continent for the first time.

Morocco is also putting forward its own bid, but the toughest contenders are widely seen as Germany and England, who is sending national sporting hero Sir Bobby Charlton into the bidding fray.

Germany's frontman for its campaign is former captain Franz Beckenbauer.



ENGLAND boss Kevin Keegan looked grim faced at Wembley after his side was held to a 0-0 draw by Sweden. Keegan had a guest spell with Australian club Blacktown City in the 1980s.